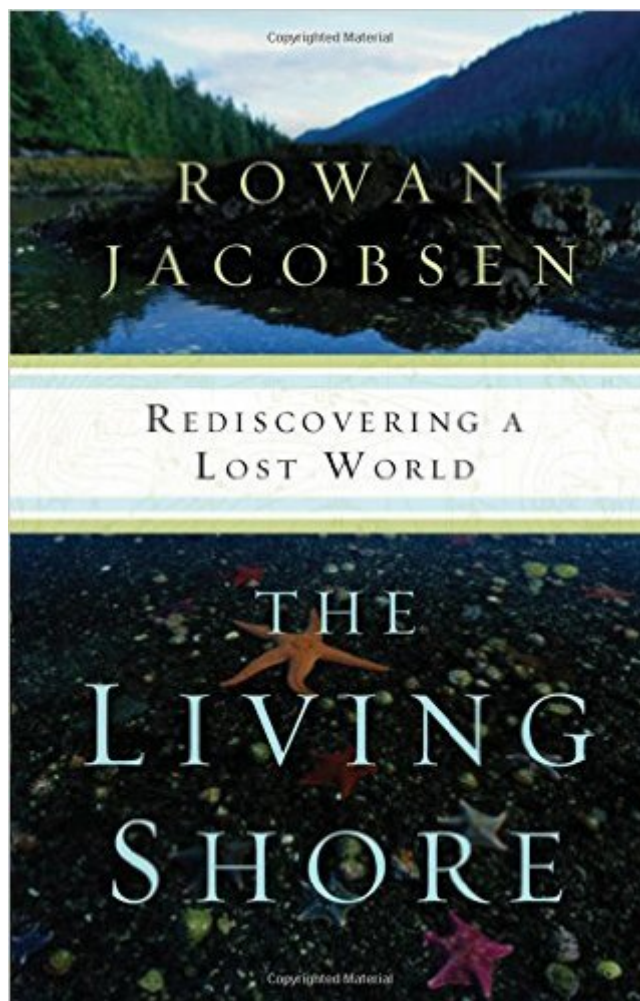


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# The Living Shore: Rediscovering A Lost World



## Synopsis

Modeled on John Steinbeck's *The Sea of Cortez*, a slim, beautiful volume containing a good news environmental story about how an oyster could help restore our oceans. In the 1990s, a marine scientist named Brian Kingzett was commissioned to survey Canada's western coast. He saw amazing sights, from the wildest, most breathtaking coasts to the smallest of marine creatures. Along the western side of Vancouver Island, Kingzett nosed into an isolated pocket beach where he found something unusual. Amid the mussels, barnacles, and clams were round oysters—Olympias. Kingzett noted their presence and paddled on. A decade later when he met Betsy Peabody, executive director of the Puget Sound Restoration Fund (PSRF), he learned that this once ubiquitous native oyster was in steep decline, and he knew that together they would return to this remote spot. Rowan Jacobsen, along with Kingzett, Peabody, and a small group of scientists from PSRF and the Nature Conservancy, set out last July to see if the Olys were still surviving—and if they were, what they could learn from them. The goal: to use their pristine natural beds, which have probably been around for millennia, as blueprints for the habitat restoration efforts in Puget Sound. The implications are vast. If Peabody and her team can bring good health back to Puget Sound by restoring the intertidal zones—the areas of land exposed during low tide and submerged during high tide, where oysters live—their research could serve as a model for saving the world's oceans. During a time when the fate of the oceans seems uncertain, Rowan Jacobsen has found hope in the form of a small shelled creature living in the lost world where all life began.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA; First edition (September 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596916842

ISBN-13: 978-1596916845

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.8 x 7.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #458,214 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Environmental > Pollution](#) #175 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology > Marine Biology](#) #218 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Marine Life](#)

## Customer Reviews

I bought \*The Living Shore\* after hearing the author on NPR (West Coast Live?) and enjoyed this short, satisfying book on the natural history of oysters and other shellfish, the threatened status of their habitat, and their role in human history and evolution - wow!

This was such an interesting story, about oysters and their role in the health of marine environments. It also talked about current thinking on the role of the seashore in human history. The book was well written, but I found the Kindle edition quite annoying. It had bizarre spaces in so many words--it seemed like serious errors on every few pages. For example, the word particular would display as par ti cu lar, or sometimes have a hyphen where it didn't belong. If I had known this in advance, I think I would have gotten the print edition, so I wanted to warn others...

I sent this as a gift to my father. He has lived on Puget Sound for 80+ years, and said he enjoyed the book very much.

excellent book,

Great read

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