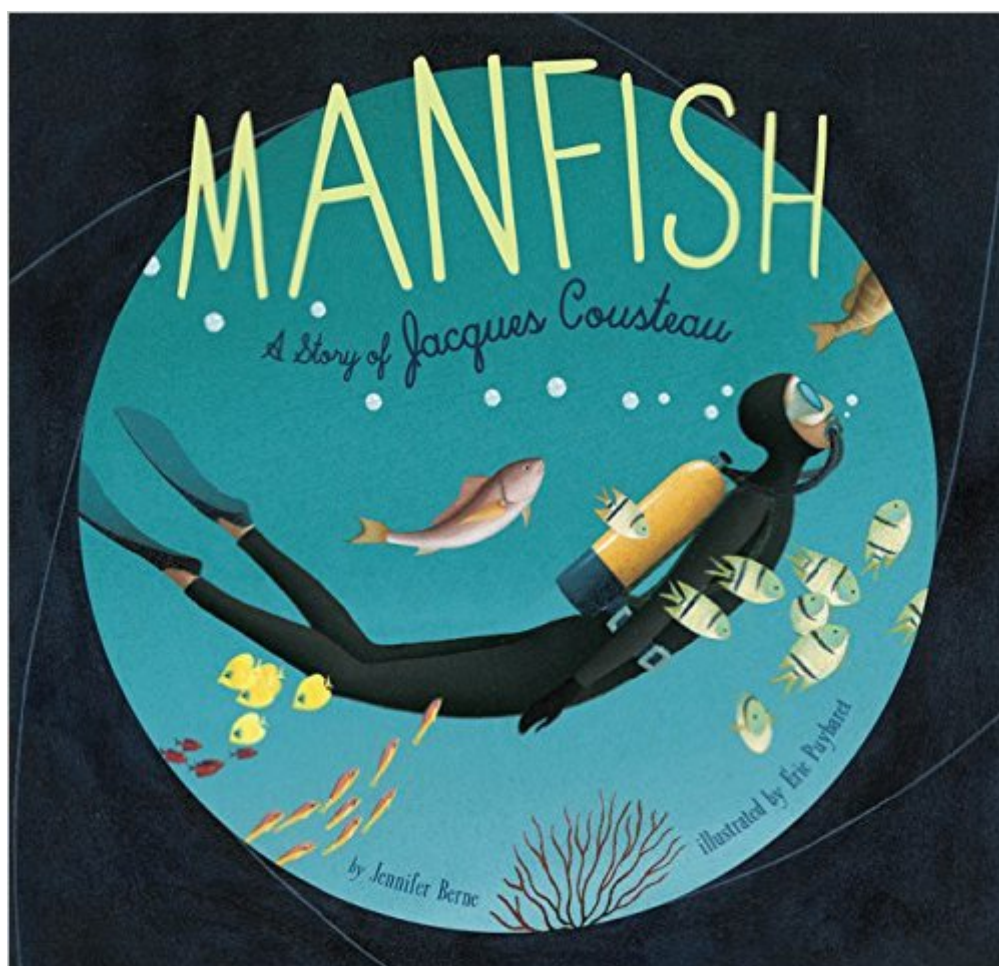


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# Manfish: A Story Of Jacques Cousteau



## Synopsis

Once upon a time in France, a baby was born under the summer sun. His parents named him Jacques. As he grew, Jacques fell in love with the sea. He dreamed of breathing beneath the waves and swimming as gracefully as a fish. In fact, he longed to become a manfish. Jacques Cousteau grew up to become a champion of the seas and one of the best-known oceanographers in the world. In this lovely biography, now in paperback, poetic text and gorgeous paintings come together to create a portrait of Cousteau that is as magical as it is inspiring.

## Book Information

Paperback: 38 pages

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Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (54 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

A beautifully written and illustrated book about a boy who grew up to be one of the world's most ardent conservationists. Both children and adults will appreciate and hopefully heed the important message woven into this charming story. The unusual perspective of the illustrations and the surprise foldout plunge you even deeper into a watery world. This is a book to give to anyone who loves the ocean and the earth.

What a gorgeous book! This biography of Jacques Cousteau is a dreamy, wonderful adventure. It shares marine inventor and explorer and conservationist Jacques' life and accomplishments, but more importantly, it shares the quality that helped him do it: a sense of wonder. Jacques wondered

about lots of things, from how cranes worked, to how movies were made, to how a person might be able to breathe underwater. Although his love of the ocean eventually led to his life's work, you get the sense while reading this book that Jacques could have been absolutely anything, and that he would have made a difference in whatever field he chose--all because he wondered. He was curious and industrious and determined. What a great model for kids, no matter where their interests lie. The writing is terrific. The facts are clear, the anecdotes are kid-friendly, and there are plenty of wonderful word choices. Here are just a couple of my favorite bits: "At that moment Jacques knew his life was changed forever. His eyes had been opened to the wonders of the sea." "Jacques, Philippe, and Did gathered a crew, their aqualungs, their hopes, and their dreams, and set off to explore the inside of the sea..." "...with eyes on long stalks, buried so deep in the sand they looked like a garden of eyes." And the terrific ending, speaking directly to kids: "Jacques dreamed that someday it would be you, exploring worlds never seen.... Worlds that are now yours. To discover. To care for. And to love." The art by Eric Puybaret is fabulous, too. My only nitpick is that I would have liked a bit more backmatter. But a stellar book!

This hardcover book is a nice story but it is a little confused if it wants to be a small child's book or an older child's book. It appears to be a nice picture book and starts off at one level but then gets technical. I liked it because it is a true story and I like Jacques Cousteau.

Jennifer Berne's tale of Jacques Cousteau's journey from child to young man to manfish is breathtaking and inspiring. This children's book is a lovely look at a world that's often forgotten in our busy lives - the sea and its inhabitants and the effect we have on each other. Berne's chronicles of Cousteau's journeys, his ambition and his deep passion for life are inspirational to young and older readers alike. The sea is bigger than life, and so is this book's message: dream big and follow those dreams. Cousteau gives us all a little hope that perhaps changing the world isn't really all that hard. I recommend getting this book for anyone in your life who loves and respects the sea and its life - or anyone who appreciates life at all. The illustrations and the poetic tale are unforgettable.

The story of Jacques Cousteau's developing fascination with the sea and its inhabitants is beautifully told and illustrated in this volume for children. . The ocean's wonder is brought vividly to life, as is Cousteau's message that we need to take responsibility to sustain the life that dwells within it.

This is such a great biography with beautiful interesting illustrations. It would be a great book to use

in a story time format or as a with a reference book pairing. I got it with a photo book so my nephew could actually see him redoing his work, but even alone, it's just fantastic!!!

This story along with the fun illustrations was captivating to my toddler after a trip to the natural history museum and aquarium in which he saw real scuba divers getting into the water. For weeks afterwards he was dressing up as a scuba diver and sliding around on the floor. The story is somewhat detailed for a tot but he still got a lot out of parts of the story and the illustrations.

A wonderful book for a wonderful human being. I like more 'story' like biographies rather than didactic ones because I think the littles get more out of it that way - this one is creative and beautiful and fun. Best age range 3-7.

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