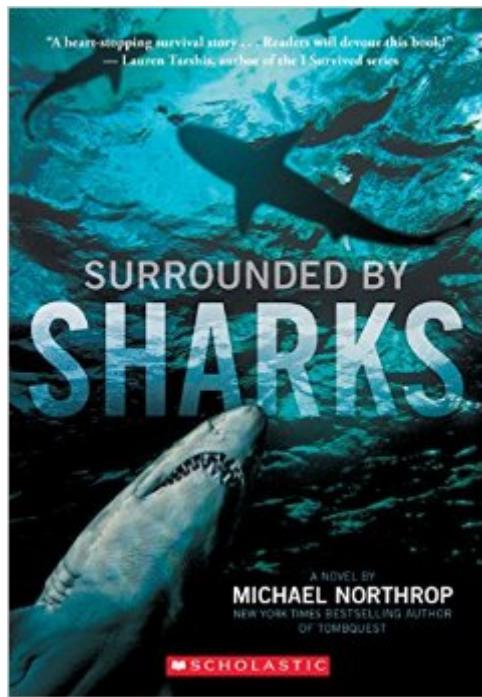


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# Surrounded By Sharks



## **Synopsis**

He couldn't sleep. That's how it all started. When Davey wakes, just as the sun is rising, he can't wait to slip out of the crammed hotel room he's sharing with his family. Leave it to his parents and kid brother to waste an entire day of vacation sleeping in! Davey heads straight for the beach, book and glasses in hand, not bothering to leave a note. As the sparkling ocean entices him, he decides to test the water, never mind that No Swimming sign. But as the waves pull him farther from shore, Davey finds himself surrounded by water -- and something else, too. Something circling below the surface, watching, waiting. It's just a matter of time...This adventure by New York Times bestselling author Michael Northrop will make readers think twice before taking a dip in the water.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.; Reprint edition (June 28, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545615461

ISBN-13: 978-0545615464

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #36,658 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Fish #102 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life #1941 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Say you're 13 and your parents have taken you on their first vacation in two years - but they took you to a tiny island off Key West - you get up early and leave the rest of your family asleep and snoring in the tiny hotel room. You look around - there are no stores, nothing cool to do except sit on the beach and maybe swim, so you try to read a book you brought with you, but then you decide to wade a little bit. And the water's warm - totally unlike what you're used to back home - and you wade further out and and out - and then you see you're far from shore - and you're being taken further and further from shore. You're in a rip tide - you try to swim but it does no good - and then you're beat, about to give up when you think you see an island, but it's just one of those huge office and home

water containers, but you can use that to float for a while. It's about then that you see the first shark. Back on land, your parents wake up, see you're missing, can't find you anywhere...and thus the search begins. You won't want to do a thing - maybe grab a snack or two - before you wrap up this one!

Davey Tsering saw the "No Swimming" sign. But it wasn't even upright, tipped over on the sand " and he wasn't going to swim, just wade " Michael Northrup's new novel, "Surrounded by Sharks", appears on the surface to be just a formulaic story aimed at the non-adult reader. However, this novel is about what is UNDER the surface " and that also applies to any preconceived notions of the plot! The author spends most of the novel alternating between two scenes " Davey, as he drifts further and further from shore and his situation gets more and more complicated " and his family / the authorities, who are trying to find out how he might have vanished from a resort on an isolated island off Key West. Mr. Northrup does a fantastic job at creating and building suspense, as Davey drifts in to deeper water and learns he's not alone in the water " and as it becomes obvious to the adults on the island that his disappearance may not have played out as they thought. Toss in some likeable characters, and you have a winning book that is NOT just for school-agers. RATING: 5 Stars. DISCLOSURE: I received this book at no cost as part of the Goodreads FirstRead program. There was no charge, but a fair and unbiased review is always requested " but not mandated " as a part of that ongoing promotion.

A really good, suspenseful novel about a young teen who gets in literally over his head and must use his intelligence to survive. Davey is on vacation with his family on a tropical island paradise. Unfortunately they are all crammed into one room and Davey (who is sleeping on a cot-thanks to his little brother Brando) can't sleep. So he decides to go exploring and find a nice quiet place to read his favorite Tolkien book. With the fearlessness of youth, he ignores the "No Swimming" sign on a secluded beach and takes a few steps into the water. He is soon swept out to sea by the relentless undertow and now must battle not only the elements but the hungry predators below him. Like my favorite movie, "Jaws" this novel slowly builds the suspense and tension without resorting to hack and slash horror to keep the story moving. The scenes are described simply but incredibly vividly giving the reader the feeling they are with Davey in the water. I would recommend this book to readers 10+ due to the frightening nature of Davey's predicament.

Davey and his family are vacationing on a small island off the coast of Key West, Florida. The first

morning after their late arrival, Davey awakens before his family and goes out to find a place to read. He happens upon a small, secluded beach, where he reads and goes walking in the surf. He doesn't realize how deep he is going in the clear water, until he is caught by the current and carried out to sea. The story is divided between Davey's point of view, bobbing alone in the ocean, and his frightened parents who can't find him. Did he take the ferry to Key West? Who might have seen where he was going on the island? Time is lost in a case of mistaken identity before the truth is suspected -- he was carried out by the undertow. And there are sharks in the water. A compelling and frightening story, as the sharks circle closer. Great for boys who love danger and excitement. Ages 12-15 and up.

Good, light read. Perfect for middle school students who are getting tired of the dystopian books. A Midwestern boy goes on vacation to the Florida Keys and finds himself surrounded by sharks. The ending is a little forced and requires some suspension of belief, but overall a fun read.

So this was my weekend read and I was surprised I finished it within 2 hours of actually sitting down and reading it. Now it is being categorized as middle grade young adult but I would read this to my nine year old. I think he would enjoy the adventure of a young boy named Davey who finds himself in a situation of hopefully being rescued before the sharks make a meal out of him. The plot is super easy to follow, clean and the characters are very simple. I really don't want to write too long of a review as I feel I would give too much away. I really liked how Davey's brother Brandon sought out someone to listen to him as he knew what his brother would do and not do. We get a bit of insight from Davey on the types of sharks he sees while being in the ocean thank goodness for having some knowledge on that.

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