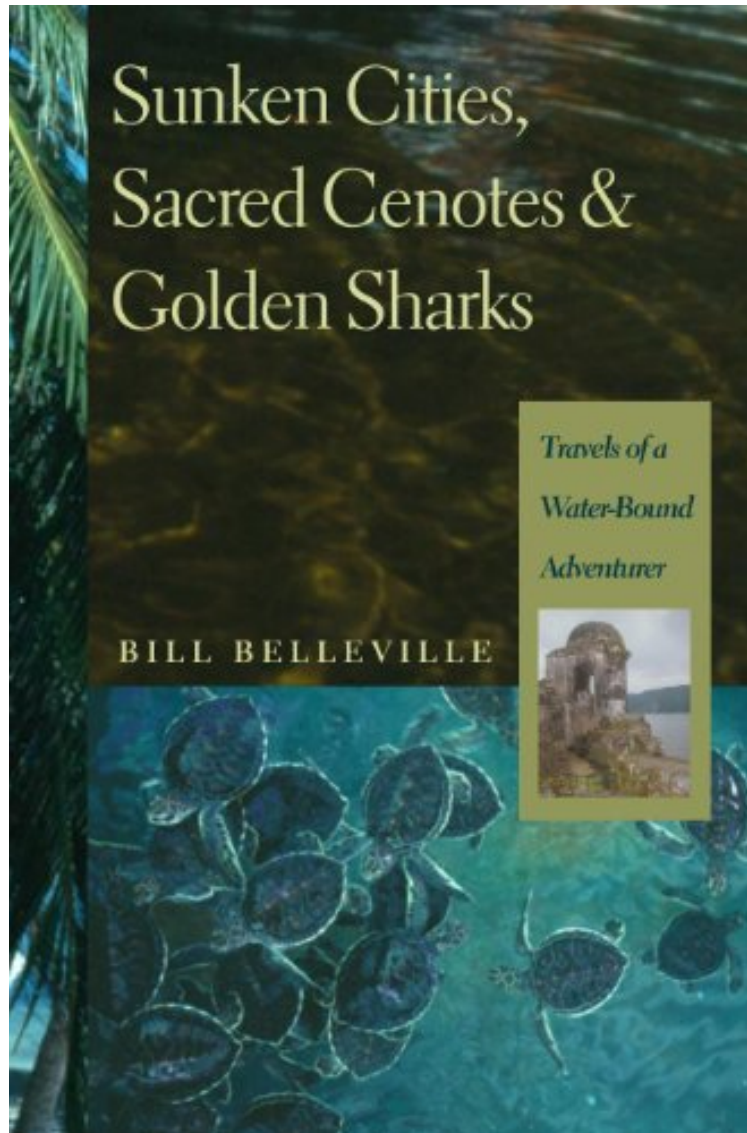


(Library ebook) Sunken Cities, Sacred Cenotes, and Golden Sharks: Travels of a Water-Bound Adventurer

# Sunken Cities, Sacred Cenotes, and Golden Sharks: Travels of a Water-Bound Adventurer

Bill Belleville

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#3511591 in Books University of Georgia Press 2004-04-30 2004-04-30 Original language: English PDF # 1  
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**Bill Belleville : Sunken Cities, Sacred Cenotes, and Golden Sharks: Travels of a Water-Bound Adventurer**  
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sunken Cities, Sacred Cenotes, and Golden Sharks: Travels of a Water-Bound Adventurer:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Delightful Book, Amazing Read By Peridot  
This one doesn't fall short. It's a great read whether one reads it straight through or reads it adventure by adventure. These would all be

great places to visit but it's not likely most folks will be able to reach them all in person. Diving them is a gift, and Bill Belleville has been kind enough to share his personal journeys with us armchair travelers. My own favourite explorations take place in Florida, but he gets to places in the Galapagos, Cuba and the Caribbean the average traveler will never see. Read about remote island dive experiences and drool in envy. I enjoyed the book tremendously and will read it again next winter when the water's too cold to enjoy. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Adventures in History for the Spirit, Heart and Mind By Elliott C. Maynard Author Bill Belleville has assembled a collage of unique and colorful Adventures which shift intriguingly among the Galapagos Islands, the Caribbean coral reefs, the azure springs of Central Florida, the abyssal deeps of Cuba, and remote and curious sites in the Florida Keys. Belleville's metaphorical writing style, a deep commitment to Nature, and his drive to explore out-of-the-way destinations, produces a tapestry of fascinating tales, making this book difficult to put down. The author's lyrical depictions hauntingly infuse his writings with a special sense of surreality, which is both captivating and memorable. This is a book which shares a very personal perspective, bringing the reader's consciousness fully into play as one adventure blends seamlessly into the next. In short, a treat for readers of all ages! Elliott Maynard, Ph.D., Arcos Cielos Research Center, Sedona, Arizona.

In *Sunken Cities, Sacred Cenotes, and Golden Sharks* nature and travel writer Bill Belleville takes us through Florida, the Caribbean, and Latin America in quest of the distinctive, the wondrous, the threatened, and the undiscovered. His wanderings take him to the once prosperous, now submerged pirate city of Port Royal, Jamaica, and to an offshore Florida reef just in time for a night dive to witness the seldom-seen spawning of the coral. In the Dominican Republic, Belleville dives with archaeologists in search of pre-Columbian Taino artifacts, long lost in the dark depths of a sacred cenote. In Trinidad he joins native fishermen in a search for the rare golden hammerhead shark. Whether he is seeking the queen conch off the islands of the Turks and Caicos or the flashlight fish in Cuba's southern waters, Belleville's purpose is always more than adventure for its own sake. Hungering for the distinct sense of a place, he learns all he can about the wild secrets of remote landscapes, from inland jungles to teeming island waters.

From *Booklist* This collection of essays brings the reader to places that are noted for archaeological treasures, rare plants and animals, or great scenery, and water is the common denominator. Belleville, travel writer, scuba diver, and boater, seems always to be wet or preparing to be wet. As his armchair companions, readers may stay dry, but the expressive and descriptive prose allows them to experience the discovery and excitement as if they were there themselves. In the , the quest is for a freshwater dolphin. In the Florida Keys, it's the quiet backwaters that preserve the past, and so on, around the globe. Belleville is an old-fashioned adventurer, excited by what he finds, seeking just for the joy of finding. He must also be a man of great charm as he seems able to coax the most arcane information from his local guides. This can seem repetitive if read in one sitting, as is the case with many anthologies, but as a book to read at leisure, it is a fine treat. Danise Hoover Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Bill Belleville's writing is like a stream of phosphorescence in the ocean that he loves so well. Belleville's language creates a dreamy double vision, blending archetype and precision so well that the reader is convinced he has not merely read about jeweled morays and pink dolphins but has floated alongside them in tropical waters. These tales are not hairy-chested, macho attempts to conquer snowcapped peaks, but adventures into sensuality and meaning. (Susan Zakin author of *Coyotes and Town Dogs: Earth First! and the Environmental Movement*) I admire the precision, the poignancy, and the passion of Bill Belleville's prose. (Don George Lonely Planet Global Travel Editor) What splendid adventures Bill Belleville guides us through! He is one of our great modern explorers, questing for gods in a time of technology, lusty for life. Here in this sensuous and unforgettable book he navigates us as deftly through language as he does ian rivers or limestone fountains deep within the earth. His journey narratives are fluid, fresh, and piercingly poetic; what he finds is ceaselessly fascinating. I would travel with Bill Belleville to the ends of the earth. (Janisse Ray author of *Wild Card Quilt: Taking a Chance on Home*) This collection of essays brings the reader to places that are noted for archaeological treasures, rare plants and animals, or great scenery, and water is the common denominator. Belleville, travel writer, scuba diver, and boater, seems always to be wet or preparing to be wet. As his armchair companions, readers may stay dry, but the expressive and descriptive prose allows them to experience the discovery and excitement as if they were there themselves. . . . Belleville is an old-fashioned adventurer, excited by what he finds, seeking just for the joy of finding. He must also be a man of great charm as he seems able to coax the most arcane information from his local guides. . . . As a book to read at leisure, it is a fine treat. (Booklist) Bill Belleville is a fearless Florida scuba diver, explorer and underwater adventurer. He also is a heck of a writer. His poetic images . . . not only engage the reader but elevate his work to a higher level than just another trek through the jungle. (Covington News) Equal parts storyteller, chronicler, adventurer and conservationist, Belleville is a little Indiana Jones and a little Henry David Thoreau. His work often maps out a timeline of what a place once was, what it's become and where it's headed. Always present in his writing is a subtext of stewardship and genuine affection for the places he adventures in. (Orlando Weekly) Florida author Belleville is that much closer to solidifying his reputation as a top-shelf nature writer. As much adventure story as naturalistic poetry, Belleville's latest excels at wrapping his eco-prose in a captivating

form. After all, who doesn't love reading about sunken treasure? For Belleville, these treasures are both artifacts and living; he gives as much breathless attention to coral reproduction as he does to a now-underwater city. As with *Deep Cuba*, *Sunken Cities* is a book that tackles ecological and political problems in a way that's engaging simply as a stand-alone story. (Orlando Weekly) Belleville is an expert diver whose wanderlust takes him to places few sane people would venture. . . . Yet such is Belleville's talent that even when he ventures into relatively familiar territory, he brings an unfamiliar perspective, finding adventure and wonderment in little-seen corners of the natural world. (Natural History) From the Publisher Take a plunge into the wild side with a veteran diver and writer