

Maurice and Maralyn make an odd couple. He's a loner, awkward and obsessive; she's charismatic and ambitious. But they share a horror of wasting their lives. What if they quit their jobs, sold their house, bought a boat, and sailed away?

Most of us begin and end with the daydream. But Maurice started studying nautical navigation. Maralyn made detailed lists of provisions. And in June 1972, they set sail. For nearly a year all went well, until deep in the Pacific, a whale knocked a hole in their boat and it sank beneath the waves.

What ensues is a jaw-dropping fight to survive in the wild ocean, with little hope of rescue. Alone together for weeks, then months, in a tiny rubber raft, starving and exhausted, Maurice and Maralyn have to find ways not only to stay alive but also to get along, as their inner demons emerge and their marriage is put to the greatest of tests. Although they ran away from the world, they can't run away from themselves.

Taut, propulsive, and dazzling, *A Marriage at Sea* pairs an adrenaline-fueled high-seas adventure with a gutting love story that asks who we become under the most extreme conditions imaginable.

SOPHIE ELMHIRST is an award-winning journalist who writes regularly for *The Guardian* and *The Economist*; her work has also appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, and *Harper's Bazaar*, among others. She's the winner of the British Press Award for Feature Writer of the Year and a Foreign Press Award. She lives in London, and *A Marriage at Sea* is her first book.

READ BY MARISA CALIN



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AUDIO

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SOPHIE ELMHIRST

Adult



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