



2002

### Turtle in the Sea

Cathleen Alton

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

---

#### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Alton, Cathleen (2002) "Turtle in the Sea," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 23 : Iss. 2 , Article 17.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol23/iss2/17>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

Arnosky, Jim. *Turtle in the Sea*. Illustrated by Jim Arnosky. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2002. ISBN 0-399227571. \$15.99. Unpaginated.

Reviewer: Cathleen Alton

Reading level: Primary

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Picture books;

Subject: Sea turtles--Juvenile fiction; Turtles--Juvenile fiction

A mother turtle is swimming towards shore, looking for a place to lay her eggs. As she drags herself onto the beach, her scars can be seen. The story of those marks becomes a narrative history of all the things that can happen to a turtle (but probably wouldn't happen to just one creature!) Shark attack, being hit by a ship, getting sucked up in a waterspout, and being caught in a net--it seems a little much, and the message is heavy-handed. Noble Nature fights to survive and reproduce.

The watercolor illustrations are mostly painted in a pastel palette, with one notable exception, a beautiful orange and red sunset that is reminiscent of Oriental paintings. This is a soft and somewhat sappy book, visually appealing but unoriginal.