1. Record Nr. UNINA9910824559303321 Autore Kelsey Elin Titolo Watching giants: the secret lives of whales / / Elin Kelsey; with photographs by Doc White; additional photographs by Francois Gohier Berkeley, : University of California Press, c2009 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-36066-3 9786612360664 0-520-94221-3 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (217 p.) Disciplina 599.509164/1 Soggetti Whales Whales - Mexico - California, Gulf of Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 177-189) and index. Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- 1. Nota di contenuto Extreme Motherhood -- 2. A Sea Of Milk -- 3. Looking For Whales In All The Wrong Places -- 4. Resident Aliens? -- 5. How To Make A Really Rich Sea -- 6. Popular Mechanics -- 7. Mirror, Mirror On The Wall, Who'S The Smartest Of Them All? -- 8. Building Nets From Bubbles And Other Mysterious Humpback Whale Talents -- 9. Do Baby Sperm Whales Suck Milk Through Their Noses? -- 10. Deep Culture -- 11. What'S The Use Of Granny? -- 12. Dolphin Snatchers -- 13. Friendly Mothers, Friendly Calves? -- 14. The War On Fish -- 15. Why Blue Whales Gotta Be Big -- 16. What You Can See By Listening -- 17. What You Can Learn From The Dead -- 18. Let'S Talk About Sex, Baby -- 19. Missing Meat -- 20. Shifting Scale -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto Personal, anecdotal, and highly engaging, Watching Giants opens a window on a world that seems guite like our own, yet is so different that understanding it pushes the very limits of our senses. Elin Kelsey's colorful first-person account, drawing from her rich, often humorous, everyday experiences as a mother, a woman, and a scientist, takes us to the incredibly productive waters of the Gulf of California and beyond, to oceans around the world. Kelsey brings us along as she talks to

leading cetacean researchers and marine ecologists about their

intriguing discoveries. We encounter humpback whales that build nets from bubbles, gain a disturbing maternal perspective on the dolphintuna issue, uncover intimate details about whale sex, and contemplate the meaning of the complex social networks that exist in the seas. What emerges alongside these fascinating snapshots of whale culture is a dizzying sense of the tremendous speed with which we are changing the oceans' ecosystems-through overfishing, noise pollution, even real estate development. Watching Giants introduces a world of immense interconnectivity and beauty-one that is now facing imminent peril.