



TAKE ACTION

The Drowning Shark Guide to learning about, raising awareness for, and helping stop shark finning.

WHEN SHARKS ARE IN TROUBLE, SO IS THE OCEAN

“The ocean ecosystem is made up of very intricate food webs. Sharks are at the top of these webs and are considered by scientists to be ‘keystone’ species, meaning that removing them causes the whole structure to collapse.”

Source: [WildAid](#)

- A third of all shark species are threatened or near threatened with extinction, with some sharks seeing drops in population by as much as 90%.
- Sharks are vital to the health of marine ecosystems, and their disappearance is compromising the health of our oceans.
- Sharks are slow-breeding and take years to mature, so they cannot easily recover from overfishing.

Source: [Shark Savers](#)

An estimated 100 million sharks are killed every year, with fins from up to 73 million used for shark fin soup.

BY THE NUMBERS

145

Countries

The number of countries involved in the shark finning trade in some way, whether in finning, distributing, or consuming fins – both legally and illegally.

5

Sanctuaries

The number of places in 2015 that have declared shark sanctuaries where sharks are protected by laws and management ecosystem practices.

4 SIMPLE WAYS TO TAKE ACTION

01

Learn More About Sharks

Learn about sharks and the important role they play in keeping our world's oceans healthy, as well as their plight.

- Get curious. Go to your local library and ask for books about sharks.
- Read educational and conservation resources about sharks. A list of some resources is available on the next page.

03

Join Conservation Efforts

Donate to, follow, or participate in the shark-saving efforts of reputable organizations that work to protect sharks & to combat the illegal wildlife trade. Here are some to consider:

- [Shark Savers, A Program of WildAid](#)
- [Global Shark Conservation Campaign](#), The Pew Trusts

02

Spread the Word

Spread the message about sharks and shark finning to your friends, classmates, and community. These videos and infographics are quick ways to share what is happening in an impactful way.

- [Racing Extinction Documentary Excerpt: Why Sharks Matter](#)
- [WildAid Shark Infographic](#)
- [What is Shark Finning](#), Infographics from Discovery

04

Speak Up

- Give a talk at your school about sharks & shark finning.
- Sign the [WildAid Shark Pledge](#)
- [Send a letter](#) to your local politicians asking them to ban shark finning or let a restaurant that serves shark fin soup know why they shouldn't.

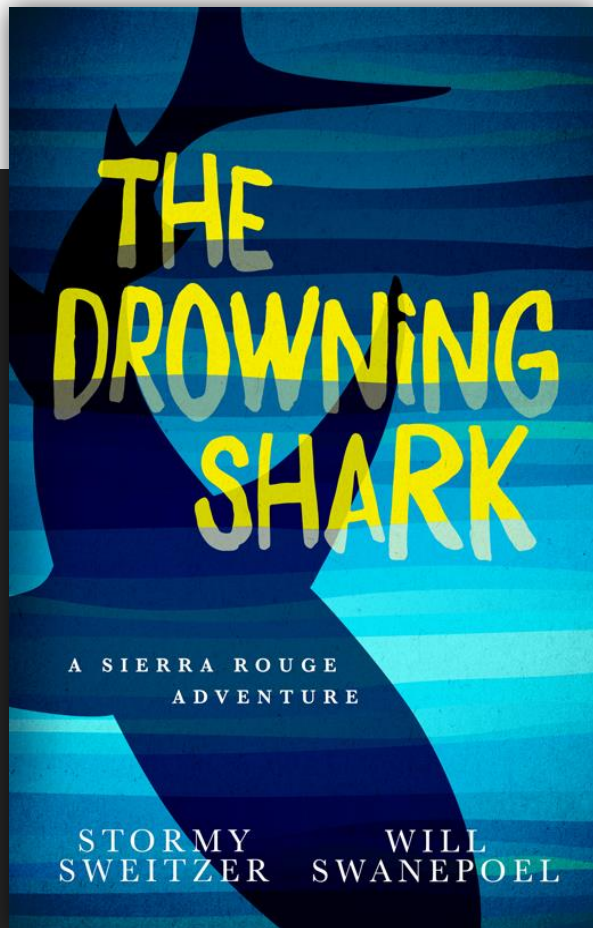
MORE RESOURCES

Sharks

- [Sharkopedia](#), Discovery
- [Basic Shark Facts](#), Defenders of Wildlife
- [Shark Updates & Articles](#), National Geographic
- [List of Threatened Sharks](#), Wikipedia
- [5 Things You Didn't Know Sharks Do For You](#), Conservation International

Conservation

- [What is Shark Finning](#), Discovery
- [Sharks](#), WildAid
- [Finning and the Fin Trade](#), Shark Savers
- [Saving Sharks From Finning](#), Audubon Magazine
- [Shark Finning](#), Humane Society International
- [Laws Protecting Sharks](#), Shark Savers



ABOUT THE BOOK

Her life turned upside-down, Sierra Rouge must decide whether to play it safe or take action when the past catches up with her. When her mother dies unexpectedly, fifteen-year old Sierra Rouge travels to South Africa to live with her celebrity chef father, a man she barely knows.

During a boat tour, she learns from local activists that dead sharks are washing up on the shore without their fins. Sierra decides to take matters into her own hands to find the people responsible.

In her efforts to bring down the shark finning operation, the past sneaks up on her and she discovers that there may be more to her mother's death—and life—than she realized.

A fast-paced adventure, *The Drowning Shark* is the story of one girl's quest to discover answers, find a new sense of normal, and do good in the world.

Available at
amazon

ME'TIK VENTURES

Me'tik Ventures is the creative partnership behind the Sierra Rouge adventure novel series for young adults and other media for young change makers and adventurers.

Our mission is to inspire young people—through educational media that also entertains—to make a positive difference in their own lives, as well as to have a positive impact on the lives of others and places and creatures they care about. [Learn more here.](#)

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