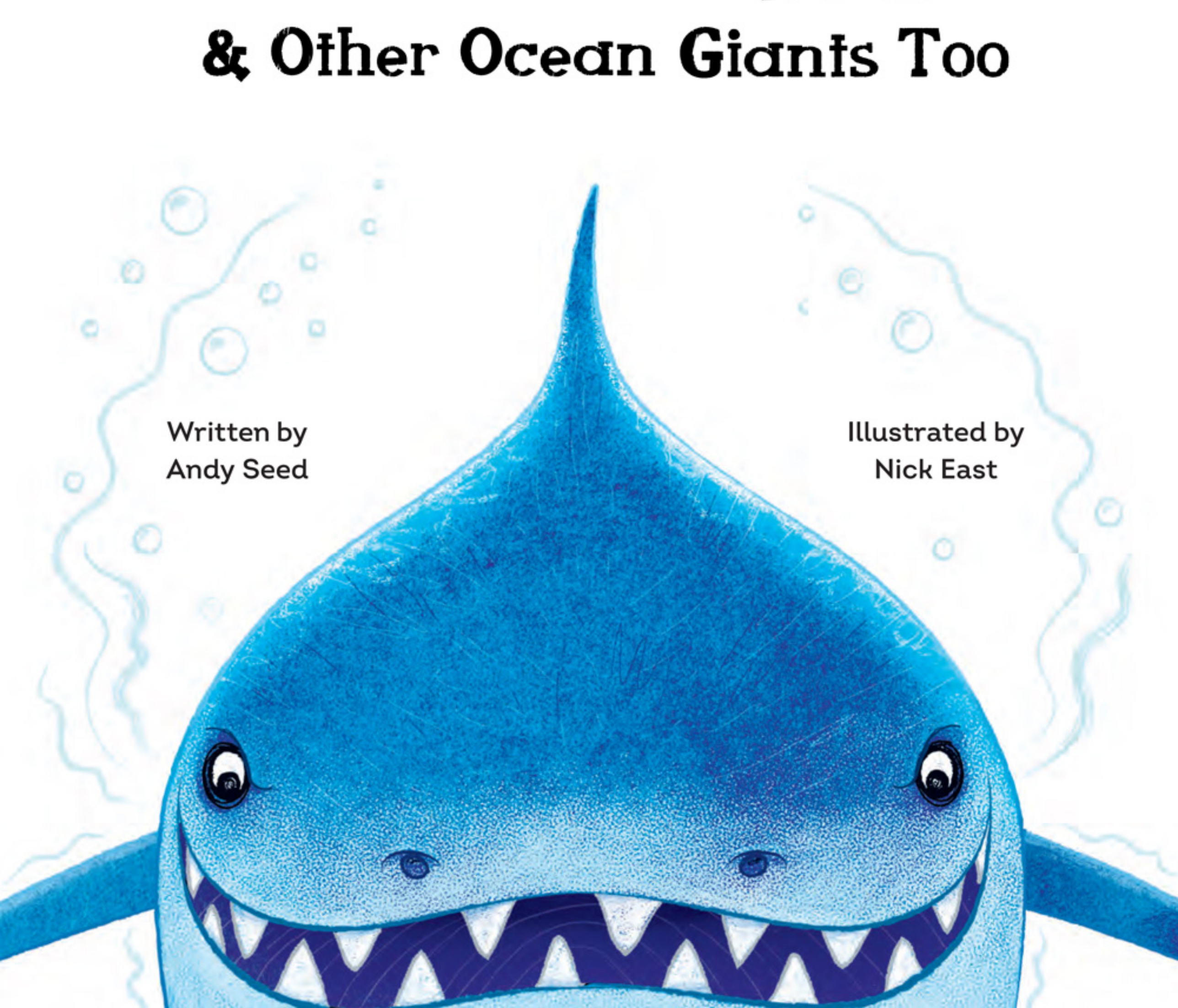
Interview with a SHARK

& Other Ocean Giants Too



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Contents

Introduction	4
Interview with a Bull Shark	6
Interview with a Blue Whale	10
Interview with an Orca	14
Interview with a Giant Squid	18
Interview with a Narwhal	22
Interview with a Manta Ray	26
Interview with an Ocean Sunfish	30
Interview with an Octopus	34
Interview with a Conger Eel	38
Interview with an Anglerfish	42
How you can help	46
Quiz	48

Introduction

What is it like being a shark? What is a blue whale most proud of? Do giant squid attack ships? Have manta rays ever thought about wearing clothes? You may think these are daft questions, but I ASKED THEM ANYWAY. I wanted to know the answers and if you want to know them too, then you have come to the RIGHT PLACE.

A few years ago, I accidentally invented a machine that allows me to TALK TO ANIMALS! Yes, I know it's hard to believe but, well, go on. And even better, the tranimalator (as I call it) even works UNDERWATER.

So, I took a chance, put my WET SUIT on (it's just an ordinary suit that I got wet) and jumped into the sea to interview ten of the most amazing giant creatures found in the oceans. Then I jumped out again and put on some breathing equipment...



Anyway, I was a bit scared. Okay, a lot scared, to come face to face with a bull shark, a massive orca and a spooky giant squid, but I chatted to them all, and you can read what they had to say right here. I hope you enjoy it – they told me some really remarkable things...



Interview with a Bull Shark

I'm in the water right now and feeling just a teeny bit NERVOUS because my first guest is three metres of big bite and brute force! I bring you the grumpy and magnificent BULL SHARK!

Q: What's it like being a shark?
A: Who wants to know?

Q: Er, me. My name's Andy and I'm a writer.
A: A PEST more like.

Q: So, what is it like being a shark?
A: Huh, daft question... what's it like being a doofus? It's SHARKY!

Q: Sorry, I'll try to do better.
A: Good, hurry up.

Q: Right. Why are you named after a bull?
A: Like bulls we are big, stocky and often moody. GRRRR!

Q: Yikes. Okay, I believe you! Er, where do you live?
A: In water. Oh, you want more... If you must know I live along the coast of India in shallow seas. But bull sharks are found all over the world in places where the water is not cold.

Q: Why not in the deep sea?
A: Well, for a start, Mr Annoying, there are plenty of fish to eat in shallow water and second, it means we are nearer to rivers.

Q: Rivers?
A: You heard me

Q: Do you swim up them?
A: Sure. We bull sharks are special, you know. We can handle salt water in seas AND fresh water in rivers.

Q: Is there a reason you swim up rivers, or is it just for fun?
A: So many questions! Instead of talking, I might just eat you...

Q: But I taste horrible: a mix of sour cheese and wiffy socks.
A: You look horrible too.

Q: Erm, anyway, why rivers?
A: Alright, whatever... the water in rivers is muddy – it helps us sneak up on fish without being seen. Also, our females give birth in rivers where there is less danger to the babies.

Q: What sort of danger?
A: Don't you know? Out at sea there are BIGGER sharks: tiger sharks and great whites. In rivers there's only the occasional crocodile to trouble us.

Q: Do you only eat fish?
A: Well, it's quite hard to get chips and peas where we live... No, we also eat stingrays, small dolphins and anything we can catch.

Q: Do you know any other sharks?
A: Not really – especially those losers who spend their time in the deep ocean. I've seen hammerheads and gulpers and catsharks.

Q: Hehe, those names are quite funny. Do you know any more?
A: If it'll shut you up... There are lemon sharks, shysharks, frog sharks and pyjama sharks, plus the cookie-cutter and the spotted wobbegong.

Q: Haha, excellent! One last question: bull sharks do sometimes bite humans. Do you mean to?
A: No, although I am very tempted to give you a munch right now. We sometimes mistake humans for fish. But really, we'd rather avoid people – they catch us, kill us and ASK US VERY ANNOYING QUESTIONS!

Q: Sorry.
A: GOOD!