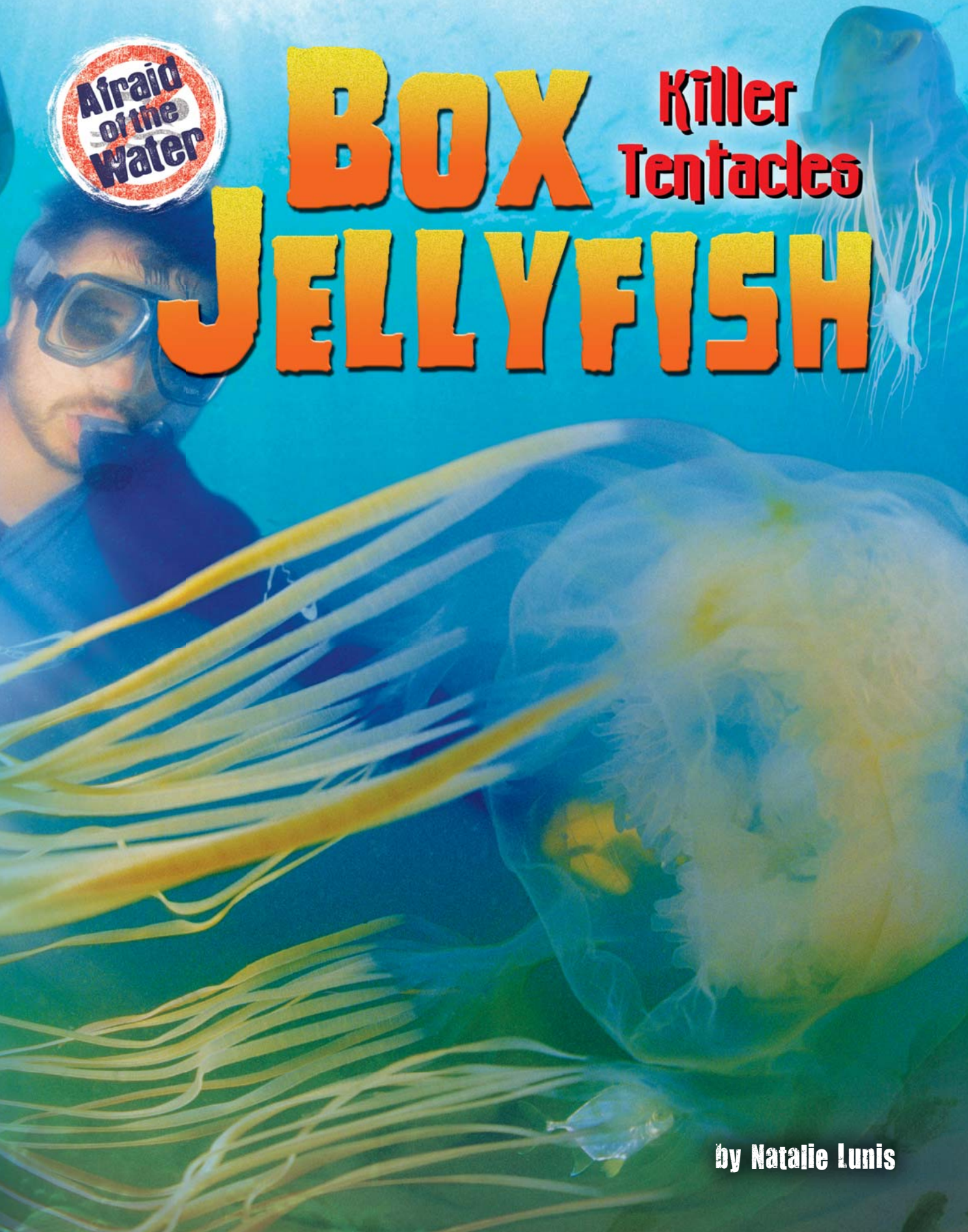




BOX ^{Killer} Tentacles JELLYFISH



by Natalie Lunis

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by Natalie Lunis

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BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

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Publisher: Kenn Goin

Editorial Director: Adam Siegel

Creative Director: Spencer Brinker

Photo Researcher: Picture Perfect Professionals, LLC

Design: Dawn Beard Creative

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Lunis, Natalie.

Box jellyfish : killer tentacles / by Natalie Lunis.

p. cm. — (Afraid of the water)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-945-5 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-59716-945-5 (library binding)

1. Cubomedusae—Juvenile literature. I. Title.

QL377.S4L857 2010

593.5'3—dc22

2009007603

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For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 101 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6R, New York, New York 10003.

Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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Stung!

Jade Hudson-Clark was having fun at the beach. The 11-year-old girl had gone for a swim in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean near Townsville, Australia. Her two friends, Chelsea, 13, and Erin, 15, were splashing around nearby.

Then something went wrong. Jade felt as though a hundred pins were going into her leg. Chelsea and Erin heard Jade call out that she couldn't swim. They hurried over and pulled her out of the water. Their friend was not out of danger, however. The girls didn't know for certain yet, but Jade had been stung by a box jellyfish—the deadliest, most **venomous** sea creature in the world.

Townsville, Australia



A photograph of a box jellyfish (Cubozoa) swimming in the ocean. The jellyfish has a transparent, cube-shaped bell with four distinct corners. It has long, thin, and delicate tentacles hanging from the bottom of the bell. The background is a deep blue ocean with some dark, branching structures visible. The image is tilted slightly to the right.

A box jellyfish swimming in the
ocean near Townsville, Australia

Beach Rescue

When Jade was stung, she felt something stringy wrap around her leg. She tried kicking it off, but that didn't work. Neither did trying to swim away. A horrible, needle-like pain slowed her down. She also felt her heart start to beat very fast. That's why she called out for help.

After Jade's friends pulled her out of the water, they took more steps to save her life. Chelsea ran to a lifeguard station and came back with a bottle of vinegar. She poured it over the stings on Jade's body. Then she waved down a passing car. The driver called for an ambulance, which took Jade to a nearby hospital. After spending a night there, Jade was allowed to go home. She was soon back to normal, except for some scars from the sting.





In this photo, Jade (center) gets a hug from her friends Erin (left) and Chelsea (right).

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Learn More Online

To learn more about the box jellyfish, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/AfraidoftheWater

About the Author

Natalie Lunis has written many science and nature books for children.
She lives in the Hudson River Valley, just north of New York City.



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BOX **Killer** **JELLYFISH** **Tentacles**

Jade Hudson-Clark had gone for a swim. Her friends Chelsea and Erin were splashing around nearby. Then something went wrong. Jade felt as though a hundred pins were going into her leg. Her friends hurried over and pulled her out of the water. Jade was not yet out of danger, however. She had just been stung by a box jellyfish—the deadliest, most venomous sea creature in the world.

The box jellyfish may look like other kinds of jellyfish—but it isn't. Look inside for the surprising truth about how dangerous this sea creature really is. You'll also find out where it lives, what it eats—and how to stay safe if you meet up with one in the water.

BLUE-RINGED OCTOPUS
SMALL BUT DEADLY

BOX JELLYFISH
KILLER TENTACLES

MORAY EEL
DANGEROUS TEETH

PORTUGUESE MAN-OF-WAR
FLOATING MISERY

SHARK
THE SHREDDER

STONEFISH
NEEDLES OF PAIN

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-945-5
ISBN-10: 1-59716-945-5



9 781597 169455