

The Water Is Wide: A Memoir

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A "miraculous" (Newsweek) human drama, based on a true story, from the renowned author of *The Prince of Tides* and *The Great Santini*

The island is nearly deserted, haunting, beautiful. Across a slip of ocean lies South Carolina. But for the handful of families on Yamacraw Island, America is a world away. For years the people here lived proudly from the sea, but now its waters are not safe. Waste from industry threatens their very existence unless, somehow, they can learn a new way. But they will learn nothing without someone to teach them, and their school has no teacher-until one man gives a year of his life to the island and its people.

Praise for *The Water Is Wide*

"Miraculous . . . an experience of joy."-Newsweek

"A powerfully moving book . . . You will laugh, you will weep, you will be proud and you will rail . . . and you will learn to love the man."-Charleston News and Courier

"A hell of a good story."-The New York Times

"Few novelists write as well, and none as beautifully."-Lexington Herald-Leader

"[Pat] Conroy cuts through his experiences with a sharp edge of irony. . . . He brings emotion, writing talent and anger to his story."-Baltimore Sun

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Here is PAT CONROY'S extraordinary drama based on his own experience-the true story of a man who gave a year of his life to an island and the new life its people gave him."Reading PAT CONROY is like watching Michelangelo paint the Sistine Chapel."

-Houston Chronicle

"A hell of a good story."

-The New York Times

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¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ ¶ . The tubes were placed side by side in a small pneumatic trough . . . the tubes on which the orange , yellow , and green rays fell commenced giving off minute gas - bubbles . MEMOIR X.] THE DECOMPOSITION OF CARBONIC - ACID GAS . 169."