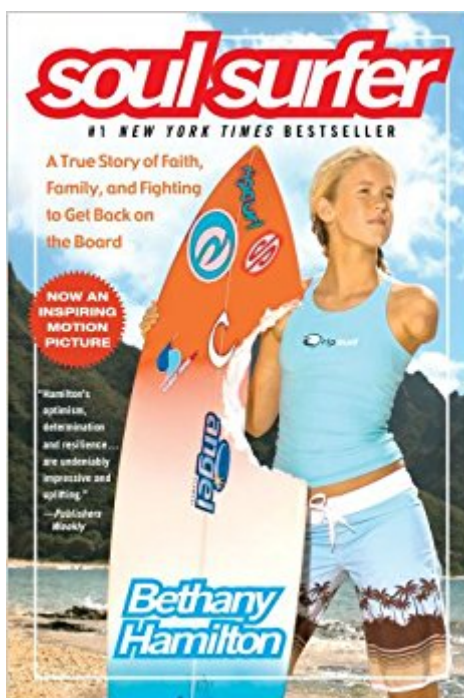


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# Soul Surfer: A True Story Of Faith, Family, And Fighting To Get Back On The Board



## Synopsis

In this moving personal account of faith and fortitude, internationally ranked surfer Bethany Hamilton tells how she survived a shark attack that cost her arm--but not her spirit. They say Bethany Hamilton has saltwater in her veins. How else could one explain the passion that drives her to surf? How else could one explain that nothing--not even the loss of her arm--could come between her and the waves? That Halloween morning in Kauai, Hawaii, Bethany responded to the shark's stealth attack with the calm of a girl with God on her side. Pushing pain and panic aside, she began to paddle with one arm, focusing on a single thought: "Get to the beach...." And when the first thing Bethany wanted to know after surgery was "When can I surf again?" it became clear that her spirit and determination were part of a greater story--a tale of courage and faith that this soft-spoken girl would come to share with the world. Soul Surfer is a moving account of Bethany's life as a young surfer, her recovery after the attack, the adjustments she made to her unique surfing style, her unprecedented bid for a top showing in the World Surfing Championships, and, most fundamentally, her belief in God. It is a story of girl power and spiritual grit that shows the body is no more essential to surfing--perhaps even less so--than the soul.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Paperback: 240 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 444 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #12,540 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Teen & Young Adult Books > Teen & Young Adult Non-Fiction](#)

[Biographies > Sports](#) #3 in [Teen & Young Adult Books > Teen & Young Adult Non-Fiction](#) [#5 in \[Teen & Young Adult Books > Sports & Outdoors\]\(#\)](#)

Age Range: 12 - 15 years

Grade Level: 7 - 10

## Customer Reviews

Gr. 6-9. Readers may not recall the name Bethany Hamilton, but after a glance at the cover photo, they'll recognize her as the girl who lost her arm to a shark while surfing. Hamilton tells her own story, though in many places the narrative sounds more like it's from an adult's perspective--perhaps from an adult coauthor. It begins with the moment a giant white shark chomps off her arm. She then goes back to discuss the events leading up to the attack and to describe what her life was like before the tragedy--home-schooling in a strong Christian household and lots of competitive surfing. Hamilton's account is suffused with her feelings for God and His impact in her life. Perhaps because of this relationship, she never seems depressed about her situation; in fact, she is surfing again. The inset of color photos offers further insight into Hamilton's life. Although this may quickly date, it has automatic appeal for a wide range of readers. Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"Surfer Bethany Hamilton, of Kauai, revisits her first book about her life before and after losing her left arm to a shark in 2003, when she was 13. Now, with the release of a docudrama on her life, she has added new material. Eleni Pappageorge's narration reflects the maturity Hamilton has gained since the first book. The most interesting passages are about Hamilton's family, their Christian perspective, and the bond formed by their shared love of surfing. The book would be an excellent choice for Christian families listening together and, thankfully, there's nothing graphic about the shark attack. Interviews at the end provide an interesting look at the making of the movie." J.A.S. AudioFile Portland, Maine --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is the best book ever! Totally my favorite! Bethany does a great job explaining everything, and recalling details from her family and friends that she wasn't there for. I've read this book like 5 times already and have watched the movie somewhere around three times, and yet I never get bored of it! The story was told by Bethany, in Bethany's point of view, in other words (first person). There wasn't anything inappropriate, which is probably why the movie is rated PG. The only violence was at the point of the attack, besides that only minor violence, like the bumping of surfboards or the stealing of waves. But the best thing I find about the books is that at the end, there are pictures of the real Bethany and here real family, because in the book chapters themselves there are no pictures. The real pictures are really cool, and then you can watch the movie and see what the actors looked like and how things were different from the book. Anyway, thank you for

reading this book! ENJOY! :D

This is better than I expected. The devotions are encouraging and inspirational. My daughter is a swimmer and several of the mentions of surfing can apply to any sport. I think this book would be good for any teen/tween girls, but is especially meaningful to athletes.

I had watched the movie with my daughter and decided that I really wanted to hear Bethany's story as she herself would tell it, not as Hollywood told it. I was very pleased that, after reading the first half of the book, Bethany wrote another part telling how she and her family played a large part in making the movie. So, now that I'm finished reading her story, I'm going to watch the movie again!

This is the story of Bethany Hamilton, a surfer who lost her arm to a shark at the age of 13, and her struggle to return to competitive surfing. This story is told in her own words and has heavy Evangelical Christian overtones, which didn't bother me as much as they normally would have given the inspirational nature of the story itself. This book is written for a younger audience, but I think people of all ages could benefit from the positive attitude and determination of its central character, and the themes expressed throughout about overcoming adversity and trying not to worry about things you can't control. Inspiring story of triumph!

This story talks about Bethany's faith in God as she overcomes the hardest obstacle in her life, a shark attack that leaves her with one arm. The amazing thing is that she believed God had a plan for her and she accepted the challenge. Her actions on handling her attack are so inspiring and really makes you appreciate the gifts God gives to each and everyone of us. She has influenced my life Greatly and if you read this book, you will see how dedicated, focused, and optimistic she really is. She is a true role model for people all over the world

Bethany is an inspiration to all! I'm glad I got this book and not the original. In this book she goes behind the scenes of her movie "Soul Surfer". At the end of the book she keeps a journal of the whole movie experience. From picking out the actors to the day the movie was released. It's so awesome to see whole process! I love how she was so open about her faith and just laid it out black and white, plain and simple. Even while filming the movie she would constantly tell the director(Sean McNamara) to keep her faith as the main focus of the movie. Not only did she want to be a

inspiration to the world but she wanted to do it through Jesus Christ. This is a book for all ages. Even if she wrote this as a teenager she has the maturity and wisdom that goes way beyond that. I'm 22 years old and I found this book so compelling. I could not put it down! I to am a Christian and in this world we live in it so easy for girls to sell themselves out, especially being in Hollywood. Bethany said in her book that she wants to continue to stay humble and be a good example to young girls out there, even after being famous. How cool is that! Not only has this surfer shown how talented and ambitious she is but, she got to show the world that with Jesus all things are possible! Thanks Bethany! :)

My daughter, who just turned 11, wanted this book after seeing the movie. She just loves it. There are pictures and places to write some of her thoughts, and the devotions are really good, in depth, real-life, thought-provoking devotions that will speak to the hearts of young people as well as adults. They have sparked some good conversations between my daughter and me.

The Soul Surfers Series is a very inspirational set of books! Bethany Hamilton is my rock and my idol because of how much she is able to do with only one arm. My arm was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident and because of Bethany Hamilton I amputated my arm, these books really helped me form the decision to have my arm amputated and to feel comfortable with it.

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