

Turtle Bay

-By Elony Barker (age 10)

Intro

"'Turtle Bay' was discovered by Tom Franklyn in 1973. It was called 'Turtle Bay' because the first animal Tom saw was a bale of baby turtles on the sands. The eggs had just hatched and the hatchlings were heading into the sea. Turtles still live, breed and lay on the shore of Turtle Bay. The turtles are protected and they are the bay's mascot." read Grace, from the brochure that she selected from the petrol station in town when they arrived. "Yep, and that is the one hundredth time you have read it in the past thirty minutes." complained Elizabeth.

Elizabeth's Perspective

It was a hot, sunny day at Turtle Bay, as Grace and I looked out of the window at the beach. "This is the best holiday house ever!" exclaimed Grace "Thanks for inviting me!". I fiddled with my shark tooth necklace as I prompted "Come on, let's go surf." We ran downstairs to get ready.

Thirty minutes later, "Race you!" said Grace as she ran back into the water to catch another wave. "You're on." I replied smiling and followed her out to sea. We surfed the waves back to shore and we decided it was a tie. "Let's go out to the shark net" I said. "Ok!" responded Grace enthusiastically. We lay down on our boards and paddled out to sea until we reached the shark net.

I looked down to the left of the net and saw a silhouette of a creature. "What is that?" I asked, pointing at the silhouette and nearly falling off my board. "Let's go see!" said Grace excitedly. We paddled closer and saw a creature furiously fighting with the net. "It's a turtle!" said Grace. I looked more closely and sadly saw that it was indeed a turtle. "It's stuck!" I cried out. "We have to help it!" Grace responded. I looked around wildly trying to find something to help it. I fiddled with my necklace like I always do when I am nervous, then I realized, the necklace! I started jabbing the sharp end of the shark tooth at the net around the turtle's neck.

Finally, it broke and the turtle was free. It swam away and was swallowed by the sea.

Turtle's Perspective

One day I was swimming about, minding my own business when a giant school of fish appeared out of nowhere and started bumping into me. I was thrown every which way until finally the fish cleared up and I could see again. But then I wished I couldn't see - I was stuck in a net! I thrashed wildly thinking that this would be the end.

I can still remember from before the people arrived, when this bay was a safe place for us. It was safe till that 'Tom Franklyn' guy came, now it is my end because of him.

Suddenly a pair of girls on boards paddled over to me and one started jabbing at the net around my neck. Finally the net broke and I swam away back into the sea without a backwards look. Perhaps the people weren't all bad?