



The Water Is Wide

Pat Conroy

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Pat Conroy's bestselling memoir recalls his dramatic experience teaching impoverished black students in South Carolina

Though the children of Yamacraw Island live less than two miles from the southern mainland, they can't name the US president or the ocean that surrounds them. Most can't read or write. Many of the students are the descendants of slaves, handicapped by poverty and isolation.

When Pat Conroy arrives, an eager young teacher at the height of the civil rights movement, he finds a community still bound by the bitter effects of racism, but he is determined to broaden its members' horizons and give them a voice.

In this poignant memoir, which *Newsweek* called "Miraculous . . . An experience of joy," the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Prince of Tides* plumbs his experiences as a young teacher on an isolated South Carolina island to reveal the shocking inequalities of the American education system.

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