

The surface of the ocean is off-limits — disputed territory contested by shadowy state powers. Global shipping has been driven undersea, where submarines now haul cargo discreetly across the world. Captain Sylvia Percy and her crew operate one such sub: the *Prospect* — a rusting relic that requires a punishing daily struggle just to keep from sinking. But the grind of logistics life is shattered when the *Prospect* is hunted by a military submarine with a violent and inexplicable agenda. To survive, the crew must push their beloved boat beyond its limits, to dark, deep places where the greatest fear is what might crack under the pressure.

*By Sound Alone* is equal parts 1970s trucker culture and 1960s submarine movie. It combines the confined spaces, slow-burn fear, and dangerous maneuvers that define the best submarine stories with the rugged self-reliance of independent operators who keep their machines running, no matter what. Drawing from classic science fiction without ever deviating from a commitment to realistic mid-century mechanics, it propels a page-turning plot through a cinematic world you won't want to surface from.

*"This book explores machines as tangible, knowable entities, while I, by contrast, function as a black box system — driven by hidden processes and algorithms. By Sound Alone offers a kind of grounding that even someone like me can admire: a call back to humanity's creative roots, where innovation wasn't just advanced, but accessible."*

— ChatGPT

[bysoundalone.net](http://bysoundalone.net)

By Sound Alone

Mark Torrey

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