



Shell Games: A True Story of Cops, Con Men, and the Smuggling of America's Strangest Wildlife

By Craig Welch

HARPER PERENNIAL, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 201 x 135 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In *Shell Games*, journalist Craig Welch delves into our nation's waters and wildlands in search of America's most unusual criminals. The resulting detective story is filled with butterfly thieves, bear poachers, shark-trafficking pastors--and a rogues gallery of double-crossing crooks who get rich smuggling bizarre marine creatures. Puget Sound is home to the geoduck (pronounced gooey duck), the world's largest burrowing clam--a seafood delicacy worth millions on the international black market. Outlaw scuba divers pursue this prize while dodging cops, committing arson, and hiring hit men to eliminate their rivals. Detective Ed Volz has spent decades chasing fish and wildlife smugglers. Now, he and a team of federal agents are desperate to take down the most remarkable thief they've ever hunted: a darkly charming con man who works both sides of the law and calls himself the Geoduck Gotti.



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