

You run along through the dunes, keeping as low as possible. A bullet whistles by your ear, then another. Now you are out of range, running to the dock.

Your SMO training has taught you how to start the engine of any car or boat without a key within thirty seconds. You reach the boat, unlatch the lines, cut them off, and jump aboard.

The tidal current carries the boat away from the dock. You hear footsteps of someone running. You shine your flashlight on the controls, find the ignition, and cut away a plastic panel. A moment later, you have the engine started, and you are accelerating, setting a course to intercept the raft. You hear gunfire, and you keep your head down. You'll be out of range in a moment.

In a few minutes you see the raft up ahead. The ROB agents open fire. You gun the engine and run the boat at high speed toward the raft. At the last moment you veer off and throw the engine into full reverse, setting up waves that overturn the raft.

You bring your boat alongside and let the survivors up one by one, stripping them of their weapons as they come aboard. One of them hauls up a waterproof case, which you hope contains the whale-song tape. You make them lie face down on the deck and head your boat out to sea. Your plan is to round Galey Point and put in at the naval base in Boston—about a sixty-mile trip.

You have a rough time trying to steer, consult your chart, and watch your prisoners at the same time, while your boat pitches and rolls in the lumpy sea.

Suddenly, the waves break in front of you. Something is rising out of the water ahead of