Contents

Prol	ogue
------	------

The Great Individualists of the Seas

1. Seahorse Whisperer

The Aquarium Keeper in Germany 17

2. Rainbow Creatures

Why Tail Fins Are Overrated 31

3. How It All Began

Finding the Primeval Seahorse 41

4. Bringing Up Baby

Stages of Life, Favorite Hangouts, and Mobility 49

5. How Much Horsepower Does Poseidon's Chariot Have?

Myth and Popular Culture 57

6. Lazybones Are Good Hunters

The Stealth Trick 67

7. Chatting

Why Seahorses Can't Keep Their Mouths Shut 75

8. Underwater Ballet

Love, Sex, and Partnership 85



9. William Is in Labor Again

The Mystery of Male Pregnancy 95

10. What Makes a Man a Man?

Seahorses and Emancipation 107

11. Taxonomic Jungle

How Many Seahorse Species Are There? 115

12. My Friend the Seahorse

Aquarium Keeping 127

13. Viagra With Fins

The Seahorse as a Remedy 137

14. Learning From Seahorses

Robotics & Co. 147

15. Terminal Trawl?

The Human Threat 155

16. To the Refuge!

Protection 163

17. Workhorses

Seahorse Power to End the Crisis? 177

18. Of Giants and Dwarfs

A Guide to the Coolest Horses of the Sea 185

Further Reading 208 Special Thanks 209 Index 210