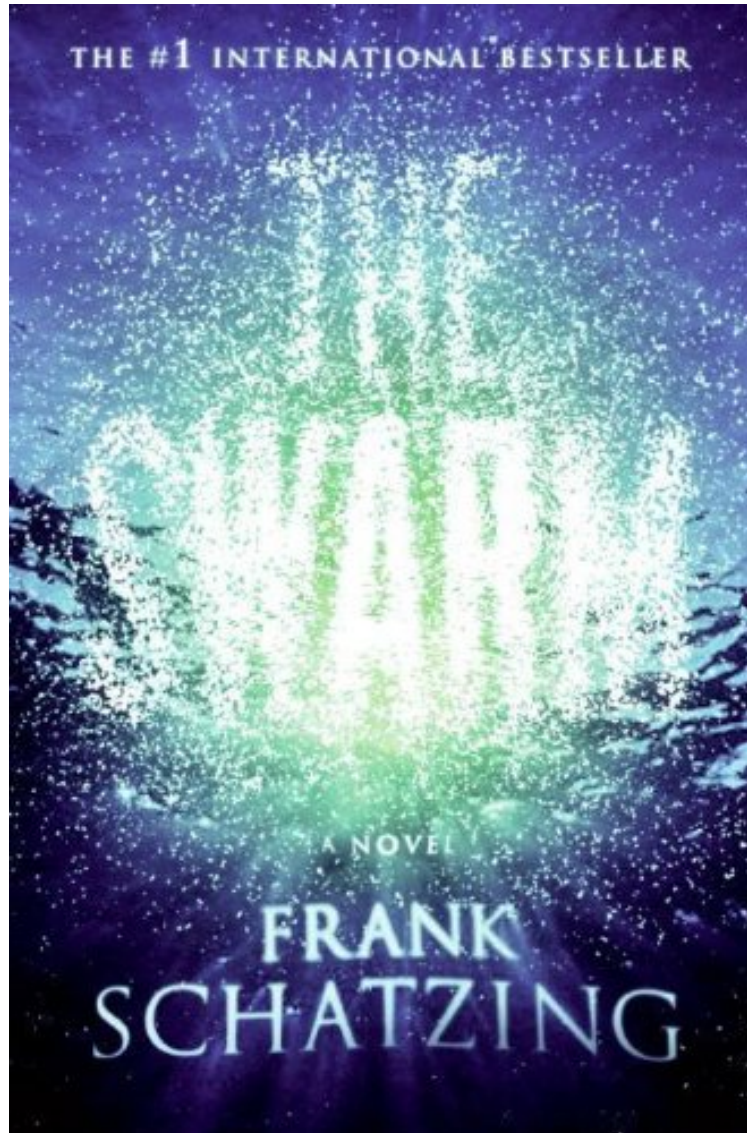


(Download) The Swarm: A Novel

## The Swarm: A Novel

Von Frank Schätzing

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**Von Frank Schätzing : The Swarm: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Swarm: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sehr sehr gnstigVon Frau NixHabe das Buch gebraucht gekauft fr unter 3 inkl. Versand. Dafur war es in echt gutem Zustand. Toll.Das Buch selbst in natrlich nicht unbegrndet ein Megahit geworden, aber wer der Deutschen Sprache mchtig ist, sollte es doch lieber auf Deutsch lesen...7 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Aktuell - apokalyptisch - animistisch - allumfassendVon timediver"Aus dem Meer stieg ein groes Tier....."(Johannes

Offenbarung 13,1 ff.) An der nordamerikanischen Westküste sind verschiedene Walspezies offensichtlich taktische Bündnisse eingegangen, indem sie arbeitsteilig Wasserfahrzeuge angreifen, versenken und die Passagiere töten. Im Atlantik bringen Heringsschwärme mit vereinten Kräften einige Trawler zum Kentern. Zum Navigieren flüchtige und massenhaft auftretende Seeschnecken setzen sich an der Steuerung von Schiffen fest und machen sie dadurch manövriereunfähig. An allen Küsten der Weltmeere kommt es neben räuberartigen Haiattacken zu toxischen Angriffen mutierter Quallen. Die Ostküste der USA wird durch eine Invasion von Tiefseekrabben heimgesucht. Die Schalentiere übertragen eine aggressive Killeralge (*Pfiesteria homonicida*), die Auswirkungen zu Folge haben, die an die "Rote Tide", der ersten Plage im Buch Exodus 7,14 erinnern lassen. Nachdem Tsunamis die Inseln in der Nordsee und die Küstendörfer der Anrainerstaaten zerstört haben, kommt der Golfstrom zum Stillstand und eine neue Eiszeit scheint bevorzustehen..... Wer oder was steuert diese wohl kaum zufällig auftretenden Phänomene? Das achtmonatige Romangeschehen beginnt zunächst mit mehreren parallelen Handlungssträngen an unterschiedlichen Orten, die im weiteren Verlauf zusammengeführt werden. Die als komplexe und glaubwürdige Charaktere eingeführten Protagonisten verkörpern jeder für sich einen Teilaspekt der Romanhandlung und deren Philosophie. Als Experten bestimmter wissenschaftlicher Spezialdisziplinen kommen sie schließlich zur Lösung des Problems zusammen..... Der 1000-seitige Roman sprengt mit seiner aktuellen Informationsfülle und -dichte jeden Rahmen und ist weitaus mehr als ein mit reichlich Action versehener Kothriller. Neben Ethik und Moral im Umgang mit Artgenossen und jenen anderer Spezies hinterfragt er auch den uneingeschränkten Patriotismus (la "right or wrong ? - my Country!") und ist zudem eine gelungene Synthese aus nahezu allen Naturwissenschaften, Religion, Philosophie und Schamanismus. Der Standort des Homo Sapiens Sapiens in der Natur und sein religiöses Selbstverständnis als Krone der Schöpfung werden auf den Prüfstand geführt. Die Infragestellung des Monopolauftrages, dass er sich "die Erde untertan machen soll" tangiert nicht nur den Menschen, sondern auch die Position und das Wesen seines göttlichen Auftraggebers. Ist der Mensch durch seine profitorientierte Ausbeutung der natürlichen Ressourcen und der Verschmutzung der Umwelt gar selbst der Urheber der globalen Apokalypse? Kann die Evolution nicht mit dem Willen des Schöpfers auch andere als die uns bekannten Wege beschreiten, um intelligente Lebensformen hervor zu bringen? Als ein Lösungsansatz zur Beantwortung aller aufgeworfenen Fragen bietet sich die pantheistische Überlegung einer indianischen Weisheit "hishuk ish ts' awalk" (was einem geschieht, geschieht allen) an. Frank Schtzing ist mit "The Swarm. A Novel of the Deep" ein epochal-ultimativer Geniestreich gelungen, der zum Meilenstein einer spannenden, naturwissenschaftlich-metaphysisch bildenden Unterhaltungsliteratur avancieren wird und deshalb die höchste Wertung verdient.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not for thrill alone Von Friederike Knabe It started when the whales, tourist attraction along the Canadian Pacific Coast, went missing. Leon Anawak, a scientist specializing in whale behaviour, is worried, and not only for the whale watchers on Vancouver Island. When the whales eventually arrive, their behaviour is nothing like the ordinary: they assault boats and people with inexplicable viciousness. More oceanic disasters come to light in countries across the globe: fishermen and boats disappear in Peru; masses of toxic jellyfish frighten people off Pacific beaches; lobsters explode, releasing an unknown substance that eventually seeps into a city's water supply. Off the Norwegian coast, ice worms eat into gas hydrates with such ferocity that dangerous methane levels are released into the atmosphere, destabilizing the coastal shelf. These and other events, while seemingly unrelated, have scientists, industry and politicians increasingly worried. Their anxiety compounds when their deep-sea monitors show large areas of bioluminescent slime materializing suddenly from the deep, like blue clouds, flashing lights and changing shapes. Divers compare them to huge translucent jellyfish, then to shoals of microbes, attaching themselves to ships, fish and crustaceans, attacking everything in their path. Oceanographers and other experts from the affected coastlines, seeking their colleagues' advice, focus on analysing causes and connections... Are these shoals connected to the disasters? How can it be that usually harmless ocean inhabitants turn dangerous and violent? Frightening scenarios emerge that indicate major ecosystem shifts, with tsunamis occurring in the Atlantic and the Gulf stream slowing down dramatically. Norwegian marine biologist, Sigur Johanson, has a theory about an unknown intelligence deep in the ocean that might coordinate the attacks. When and how can he and his colleagues stop the threat to human life, if at all? For most of us understanding of the oceans is superficial. Our knowledge of what lies below the scuba-diving depth is usually sketchy. The Swarm will change that for the interested reader. Many of the phenomena described in the book are realistic and the resulting fictional speculations based on extrapolation of solid science. For example, the ice worms are real, and while they do munch away at methane hydrates, they are harmless and only known in the Gulf of Mexico. The "ocean conveyor belt" ensuring the exchange of cold and warm water across the oceans is well discussed in today's media. The danger signs of it collapsing are recognized by marine and climate scientists alike. Our knowledge of microbes and bacteria and their ability to change animal behaviour is growing and their conduct a subject of much serious investigation, whether on land or in the ocean's depths. The majority of the dozen or so protagonists are realistically developed as concerned and hard working scientists. The author regularly takes time out from the action, providing the reader with detailed portrayals of their life and work. Some chapters provide substantial research background. Readers looking for a constant thrill may find that the author at times goes too far into peripheral issues. For this reader, particularly moving has been Leon's story and his rediscovering of the wild Canadian North and its traditions. Several real-life scientists appear by their own name as

characters, adding to the authenticity of the research introduced. Still, Schatzing's stereotyping in the portrayal of, in particular, US representatives of the political, military and intelligence community is a bit overdrawn. Their attempt to lead the international task force leads to some discomfort in the scientists and the reader. Good and evil forces are playing against each other whether human or not. The ending is somewhat of a disappointment, rushed and not convincingly developed in this reviewer's opinion. Recognizing the influence of authors such as Michael Crichton and films like *Contact* and *The Day After Tomorrow*, Schatzing has taken the disaster thriller deep under water. However, with close to 900 pages *The Swarm* is a hefty book in more than physical weight. In a blend of detailed and often fast paced action in diverse locales, in-depth scientific exploration of realistic ocean-based environmental dangers and philosophical debates about human ethics and alien intelligence and consciousness, Schatzing has created an expansive story with a strong message: the oceans and its creatures are reacting to long-term human abuse and exploitation and are fighting back! Read the book for the issues as well as for the thrill. It is worth it. (4.5 stars)  
[Friederike Knabe]

Kurzbeschreibung Whales begin sinking ships. Toxic, eyeless crabs poison Long Island's water supply. The North Sea shelf collapses, killing thousands in Europe. Around the world, countries are beginning to feel the effects of the ocean's revenge as the seas and their inhabitants begin a violent revolution against mankind. At stake is the survival of the Earth's fragile ecology and ultimately, the survival of the human race itself. The apocalyptic catastrophes of *The Day After Tomorrow* meet the watery menace of *The Abyss* in this gripping, scientifically realistic, and utterly imaginative thriller.

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