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Save the Whales Please

Konrad Karl Gatien
Sreescanda
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Written by two men who hold masters degrees from the University of Southern California film school, *Save the Whales Please* is a movie between book covers with short scenes that end where the director—Quentin Tarantino—might say, “Cut.” Its a political action thriller in which Uma Thurman or Angelina Jolie might star as Jan Everett, the drop-dead gorgeous first lady of the United States and committed environmental activist whose passion is saving whales. Her husband, Carston Everett, is running for his second term. Hes an independent, and his poll numbers, like the poll numbers of his Democratic and Republican rivals, are all under thirty percent. Everett is young, glamorous, and ambitious. But a Jed Bartlett hes not. In fact, hes surrounded by a chief of staff and advisors that make Dick Cheney and officials of the former administration look like Peter Pan and the Lost Boys. Early on, George Pleasance, Everetts chief of staff, sees a reflection of himself with the president and another advisor in a mirror in the Oval Office. He “felt a chill. In that moment, they couldve been the White House of Nixon, Haldeman, and Ehrlichman at the height of their power, pre-Watergate.”

This is an action-adventure story of dirty politics all around the world. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) allows Japan to kill whales “for scientific study,” which really means for public consumption. Pirates slaughter whales and sell them to Japan. When Jan Everett and her team, which includes a videographer and a submarine captain, capture both a notorious pirate and a ship owned by a Japanese family with enormous political influence, Japan threatens the US with a trade war. At the same time, nearly two thousand blue whales have somehow been trapped between the Arctic ice and the US Navys sonar experiments. If the whales remain trapped, theyll all die and the species is likely to become extinct, but the White House has offered these whales to Japan to forestall the threatened trade war. Jan Everett and her cohort take over the captured pirate ship and set out to save the whales.

The authors, one of whom is an entertainment lawyer, have created amazingly realistic politics and technology. Well, either theyre making it up, or its nonfiction that will inspire both green fanatics and conspiracy theorists to take action. Either way, its an exciting read.

BARBARA ARDINGER (April 13, 2009)

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