



# Escaping the Giant Wave

By Peg Kehret

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## Escaping the Giant Wave By Peg Kehret

### The Worst Vacation Ever!

Thirteen-year-old Kyle thought spending a vacation on the Oregon coast with his family would be great. He'd never flown before, and he'd never seen the Pacific Ocean.

One evening Kyle is left in charge of his younger sister, BeeBee, while his parents attend an adults-only Salesman of the Year dinner on an elegant yacht. Then the earthquake comes -- starting a fire in their hotel! As Kyle and BeeBee fight their way out through smoke and flame, Kyle remembers the sign at the beach that said after an earthquake everyone should go uphill and inland, as far from the ocean as possible. Giant tsunami waves -- three or four stories high can ride in from the sea and engulf anyone who doesn't escape fast enough.

Kyle and BeeBee flee uphill as a tsunami crashes over the beach, the hotel, and the town. The giant wave charges straight up the hillside and through the woods where the children are running for their lives. The perfect vacation has become a nightmare! Somehow Kyle and BeeBee have to outwit nature's fury and save themselves from tsunami terror.

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## Escaping the Giant Wave By Peg Kehret Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5–8—Kyle's excitement at vacationing with his family on the Oregon coast turns to dismay when Daren, the school bully and Kyle's nemesis, turns up in the same hotel. When Kyle is left to baby-sit his little sister Bebe while his parents embark on a dinner cruise, an earthquake and then a tsunami strike, starting a fire in the hotel. Kyle and Bebe must outrun the tsunami and save themselves and Daren from this force of nature. Through this experience, Kyle is finally able to stand up to his tormenter. Peg Kehret's novel (S & S, 2003) is blandly narrated by Terry Bregy who deflates much of the tension and drama of the story.

Nevertheless, middle school boys might enjoy the survivor aspects of the tale.—*Lisa Hubler, Memorial Junior High School, South Euclid, OH*

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## Review

"When most people hear 'large-print book,' they immediately think senior citizen. But large-print editions of popular children's books -- from the powerhouse *Harry Potter* series to timeless classics like *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* -- are now making their way onto the shelves of the Children's Department at the Canton Library. . . . Although large-print editions are targeted to the visually-impaired or dyslexic child, they can also be used by standard-vision readers. So Kershner [Children's librarian at the Canton Public Library] has decided against creating a special section in the Children's Department (as exists in the Adult Department) opting instead to intersperse large-print books on the shelves with the regular print versions of the same titles."

-- *The Observer and Eccentric* (October 2000) (*The Observer and Eccentric* 20001001)

"Thorndike Press has helped me not only find books I want to read, but they also look like regular books. That's important when you're a kid and you can only read Large Print, you want your book to look like all the other books. I'm reading a lot more now that we have found Thorndike Press."

-- Jim Bernardin, Islamorada, FL

"Everyone loves to read, there's nothing like curling up with a good book. We're a reading family, so when our son was diagnosed with Stargardt's Disease and only able to read Large Print, it was particularly difficult. Books on tape are wonderful but they don't fill the void of actually reading a good story. Large Print books have been around a long time for older people, but to find a good novel for a young person in Large Print began to feel nearly impossible. The books that Thorndike Press publishes have truly made a difference in my son's reading life. He can enjoy current novels as well as some of the classics that he missed reading when it became too difficult with regular print."

-- Sara Bernardin, Islamorada, FL

## About the Author

**Peg Kehret's** books for young readers are regularly recommended by the American Library Association, the International Reading Association, and the Children's Book Council. She has won twenty-one children's state book awards, the Golden Kite Award from the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators, the PEN Center West Award for Children's Literature, and the Henry Bergh Award from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for *Saving Lilly*. A longtime volunteer at the Humane Society, she often uses animals in her stories.

Peg and her husband, Carl, live in a log house on ten acres of forest near Mount Rainier National Park. Their

property is a sanctuary for blacktail deer, elk, rabbits, and many kinds of birds. When she is not writing, Peg likes to read, watch baseball, and pump her old player piano.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Colleen Thompson:**

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#### **Andrew Joy:**

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