

Rachel Carson

Marine biologist

"Rachel Carson was an American marine biologist who was known for her writings on environmental protection and the natural history of the world. She was born in 1907 in Pennsylvania and developed a deep interest in the natural world. She intended to become a zoologist when she entered Pennsylvania College for Women but changed her field of study to Biology."

She published her first book, 'Under the sea-wind'. It was praised for its scientific accuracy. She published her second book, 'The sea around us' in 1951 and her third 'The edge of the sea' in 1955. 'Silent Spring' (1962) was her best seller and created a worldwide awareness of the dangers of environmental pollution. She suggested that the ecosystem was reaching the limits of what it could sustain. Carson stood by her warnings of the consequences of indiscriminate pesticide use despite the threats of lawsuits from the chemical industry. Carson died before she could see any good results from her work, but she did provide some of the best environmental writing ever published.

Carson met Dorothy M. Freeman in 1953. Freeman had written to Carson when she heard that she was moving there. This began a friendship and even though Freeman was a devoted housewife, her relationship with Carson was central to Carson's life. Their relationship was mostly letters, but the language was romantic: Carson referring to Dorothy as 'Darling' as if they were lovers. Although Carson was never open about this relationship or her sexuality, this relationship with Freeman was special to her.

I chose to write about Carson because of the state our oceans are in now. Carson wrote about how we can help our oceans, and although she was considered radical at the time, she kept writing and trying to help. That's what inspired me."



UNDER THE SEA-WIND

SILENT SPRING

THE E OF THE