

***The Adventures of Blue Ocean Bob Blue Ocean Bob Discovers His Purpose***

**Brooks Olbrys**

**Reviewed by: Annie, 23**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**

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Blue Ocean Bob is not content despite living on the beautiful, lush Island of Roses. Seeking a fuller life, Bob and his reluctant bird companion, Xena, embark in his boat, hoping for guidance from sea creatures. The pair encounters a dolphin who directs them to the wise sea turtle, Doc, who lives in a lagoon with a sunken ship-turned study. The road to contentment, Doc explains, begins by looking inside oneself and realizing one's passion. Heeding this advice, Bob discovers his purpose, marine biology, based on his passion for protecting sea life.

The beautiful illustrations in *Blue Ocean Bob* create a lively seaside world. Using the map on the inside covers, readers can build spatial reasoning skills by tracking Bob's journey as he sails from his dock at the beach, as he stops at the dolphins, and finally as he reaches Doc's Lagoon. Readers are set up to make predictions about Bob's path based on the illustrations on the map, and may imagine what else Bob might do in his island world.

*Blue Ocean Bob* has a clear message that happiness stems from the pursuit of one's passion, or more simply put, "follow your dreams." I recommend this book for children transitioning to the next year in school, who might be beginning to consider what it is he or she is passionate about. Because of challenging vocabulary - both in pronunciation and meaning - I recommend *Blue Ocean Bob* for grades 2 and up. I read this with my first grade students and needed to explain the meanings of many words. It may be more suited for a teacher read-aloud book for first grade, rather than a student read book. Despite the difficult to sound out words (sight words), children will love the story and illustrations and want to grow into a better reader with this book.

***The Adventures of Blue Ocean Bob***  
**Brooks Olbrys, Illustrated by Aleksandra**  
**Beaucher <http://www.BlueOceanBob.com>**  
**Reviewed by Cynthia Brian**  
**Be the Star You Are!® Book Review**  
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It is not often that I get really excited about a new picture book for children. Being the Founder and Executive Director of the literacy charity, Be the Star You Are!®

501c3 and the producer and host of the radio program that showcases authors, Starstyle- Be the Star You Are!, I regularly read three to four books per week. When ***The Adventures of Blue Ocean Bob*** crossed my desk, I felt an instant thrill. Here is a book that will help kids find their passion, purpose, and possibilities.

The cover is colorful and the subtitle descriptive-“*Blue Ocean Bob Discovers His Purpose*”. Based on teachings of Bob Proctor who was inspired by Napoleon Hill and Earl Nightingale, debuting author, Brooks Olbrys takes readers on an oceanic voyage of self-discovery. Through rhyming verse and charismatic characters, we learn that a young boy named Bob isn’t completely happy with his life even though he lives on a beautiful island. With his closest friend, a fuchsia hued hummingbird named Xena, Bob sets sail to ask the sea creatures about the meaning of life. From Al, the dolphin, he learns to live in the moment, and from Doc, the wise turtle, he is challenged to find his passion. Bob visualizes his destiny of dedicating his life to becoming Blue Ocean Bob and realizes that his true journey awaits him.

Beautifully illustrated by Polish artist, Aleksandra Beaucher, the story springs to life on every page as readers imagine traveling with Bob and his friends to save the ocean and the planet. The underlying beauty of the poems teaches that in serving others, contentment and fulfillment is gained.

This series is destined for greatness and I, personally, anxiously await the continuing adventures of Blue Ocean Bob. What better way to prepare our children for personal success than to take them on a trip through the power of their minds and imaginations. Thumbs up, bon voyage, a new children’s classic has been birthed!

*Cynthia Brian is a New York Times best selling author, TV/Radio host, and Founder/Executive Director of the literacy charity, Be the Star You Are!® empowering young people to read, lead, and succeed.*  
<http://www.bethestaryouare.org>; <http://www.StarStyleRadio.com>