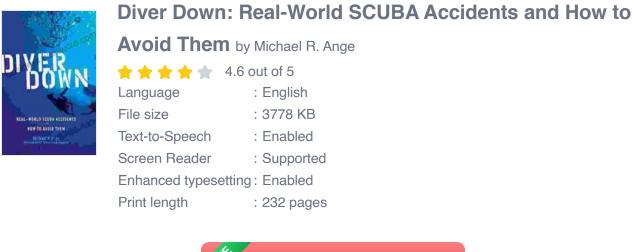
Real World Scuba Accidents and How to Avoid Them

Scuba diving is an incredible and rewarding activity, but it's important to be aware of the risks and know how to avoid them. In this article, we'll discuss some of the most common scuba accidents, and provide tips on how to avoid them.





Decompression Illness

Decompression illness (DCI) is a condition that can occur when a diver ascends too quickly from a dive, causing nitrogen bubbles to form in the bloodstream. This can lead to a variety of symptoms, including pain, numbness, and paralysis. In severe cases, DCI can be fatal.

To avoid DCI, divers must follow the recommended dive profiles and ascend slowly, allowing the nitrogen in their bodies to dissolve safely.

Barotrauma

Barotrauma is a condition that occurs when the pressure inside the body is different from the pressure outside the body. This can happen when a diver descends too quickly, ascends too quickly, or holds his or her breath during a dive.

Barotrauma can cause a variety of symptoms, including ear pain, sinus pain, and lung damage. In severe cases, barotrauma can be fatal.

To avoid barotrauma, divers must equalize the pressure in their ears and sinuses by swallowing or blowing their noses. Divers should also avoid holding their breath during a dive.

Nitrogen Narcosis

Nitrogen narcosis is a condition that can occur when a diver breathes nitrogen at high pressures. This can happen during deep dives or long dives. Nitrogen narcosis can cause a variety of symptoms, including drowsiness, confusion, and loss of coordination.

To avoid nitrogen narcosis, divers should limit their depth and dive time. Divers should also be aware of the symptoms of nitrogen narcosis and be prepared to ascend if they experience any of them.

Equipment Failure

Equipment failure is a serious hazard in scuba diving. This can include anything from a leaky regulator to a failed dive computer.

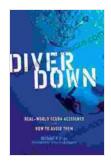
To avoid equipment failure, divers should inspect their equipment before every dive and have it serviced regularly by a qualified technician.

Human Error

Human error is the leading cause of scuba diving accidents. This can include anything from diving beyond one's limits to ignoring safety rules.

To avoid human error, divers should be well-trained and experienced. Divers should also dive with a buddy and follow the buddy system.

Scuba diving is a safe and enjoyable activity, but it's important to be aware of the risks and know how to avoid them. By following the tips outlined in this article, you can help reduce your risk of a scuba diving accident.



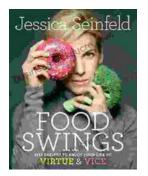
 Diver Down: Real-World SCUBA Accidents and How to

 Avoid Them by Michael R. Ange

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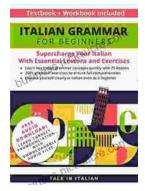
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