

I am an Orca

Maya Williams

To many people I am different things.

To the Tlingit, I am a protector

To the Makah, I am a source of food and fuel

To other peoples, I am a medicine animal.

I am a symbol of power and strength.

My name would have you think that I am a vicious, monstrous creature.

But could a monstrous creature keep the balance in an entire ecosystem?

You look at me with your googly eyes, while carelessly throwing your trash into the ocean.

You teach your kid that if a person was there first, you must respect them.

Yet, we were here first, and you completely ignore us.

What will I be in the future?

Will I be extinct?

That is up to you.