



## ***The Outlaw Ocean: Journeys Across the Last Untamed Frontier* by Ian Urbina**

### Discussion Questions for Chapters 4-8

Chapters
<b>Part 1: Thunderstruck (pages 3 - 90)</b> <i>Prologue</i> Chapter 1: <i>Storming the Thunder</i> Chapter 2: <i>The Lone Patrol</i> Chapter 3: <i>A Rusty Kingdom</i>
<b>Part 2: I'm on a Boat (pages 91-201)</b> Chapter 4: <i>The Scofflaw Fleet</i> Chapter 5: <i>Adelaide's Voyage</i> Chapter 6: <i>Jail Without Bars</i> Chapter 7: <i>Raiders of Lost Arks</i> Chapter 8: <i>The Middlemen</i>
<b>Part 3: Smoke on the Water (pages 202 - 319)</b> Chapter 9: <i>The Next Frontier</i> Chapter 10: <i>Sea Slavery</i> Chapter 11: <i>Waste Away</i> Chapter 12: <i>Fluid Borders</i>
<b>Part 4: Breaking the Law (pages 320 - 416)</b> Chapter 13: <i>Armed and Dangerous</i> Chapter 14: <i>The Somali 7</i> Chapter 15: <i>Hunting Hunters</i> <i>Epilogue</i>

#### **Icebreaker:**

If you were going to escape from home and travel on a ship somewhere in the world, where would you go—and why?

#### **Discussion Questions:**

##### **A) Chapter 4: *The Scofflaw Fleet***

Based on what you've learned so far about illegal fishing, imagine you're designing a computer program to detect suspicious vessels on the high seas. What variables, behaviors, or patterns would you program it to track? What might raise a red flag?

##### **B) Chapter 5: *Adelaide's Voyage***

The quote "A rat in a maze is free to go anywhere, as long as it stays inside the maze" appears in this chapter. What do you think it means in the context of maritime law and freedom on the ocean?

**C) Chapter 6: *Jail Without Bars***

What does the author suggest about the romanticized notion of freedom at sea? How does this portrayal resonate—or not—with your own time on the water? What stood out to you in the contrast between that ideal and the harsh conditions described in the chapter?

**D) Chapter 7: *Raiders of the Lost Arks***

What different types of piracy are explored in this chapter? How do “corporate-style” piracy and illegal fishing operations differ from traditional notions of piracy?

**E) Chapter 8: *The Middlemen***

What are some of the hidden costs—or externalities—of globalization in the fishing industry? How does seafood labeling tie into this? When you hear seafood comes from a specific location, what do you think that really means about how it was caught, processed, and sold?

Resources:

- [The Outlaw Ocean Wakelet](#)
- [NOAA – Understanding Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing \(IUU\)](#)
- [United Nations High Seas Treaty](#) 2023
- [Global Fishing Watch Map](#)