


Every year from September - March, each morning, Taiji fishermen head out to hunt for migrating dolphins and small whales in Taiji, Japan. They are the largest supplier of cetaceans to marine parks worldwide.





Once a pod is spotted the fishermen get their boats into drive formation and bang on metal rods that extend down into the water creating a wall of sound that disorients the dolphins. They drive them into the Cove where skiffs with nets await, to drop behind them.



Once inside the Cove the dolphins are trapped and begin spy hopping. They are scared and confused awaiting their fate. Dolphins have complex emotions and social structure and this is extremely stressful for them.




The “beautiful ones” are put aside, while their family is slaughtered in front of them. Metal rods are driven into their backs to sever their spinal chords, they don’t die right away.



Mothers and babies are ripped apart during this and babies are often dumped back out to sea alone to fend for themselves, crying for their mothers. Juveniles are not counted in the quota.





The water in the cove turns into the blood of innocent dolphins with each slaughter. Trainers are brought in and the selection process begins for the ones that survive the capture, their life will be captivity.





The selection process is brutal. Divers and sometimes trainers get into the water and forcefully chase and grab the dolphins they want to inspect more closely. Many get stuck in the nets. For every 1 taken into captivity 17 will die. Once trainers have selected their choices, the dolphins are shipped to marine parks and swim with dolphin facilities all over the world.





When you support captive marine parks you support the slaughter of hundreds of innocent dolphins and contribute to a multitude of deaths of dolphins and whales once in captivity.





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