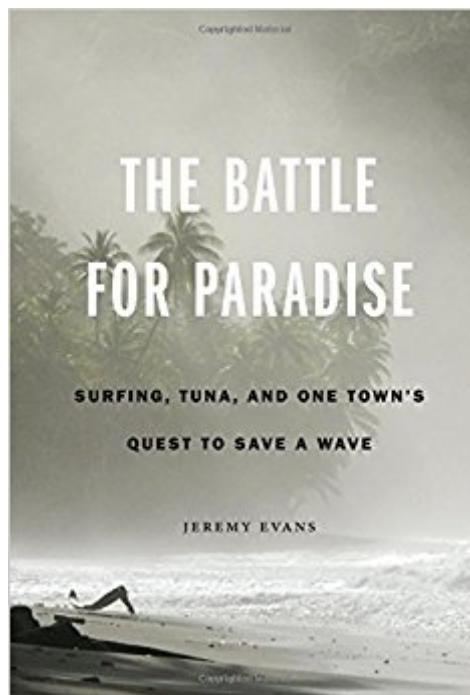




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# **The Battle For Paradise: Surfing, Tuna, And One Town's Quest To Save A Wave**



## Synopsis

**CORRECTION:**Regarding the book, *The Battle for Paradise* by Jeremy Evans, the following correction has been made on page 163 in paragraph three (3) to wit: “Weston once worked in concert with government officials in a pre-planned sting operation, complete with marked bills: Weston, whose role in the operation involved paying a bribe to the Golfo Dulce mayor for a concession and then documenting the bribe as a way to expose the mayor as a corrupt government official, was a former cocaine dealer, according to Dan, and someone who illegally acquired possession of his sawmill property.” Pavones, a town located on the southern tip of Costa Rica, is a haven for surfers, expatriates, and fishermen seeking a place to start over. Located on the Golfo Dulce (Sweet Gulf), a marine sanctuary and one of the few tropical fjords in the world, Pavones is home to a legendary surf break and a cottage fishing industry. In 2004 a multinational company received approval to install the world’s first yellowfin tuna farm near the mouth of the Golfo Dulce. The tuna farm as planned would pollute the area, endanger sea turtles, affect the existing fish population, and threaten the world-class wave. A lawsuit was filed just in time, and the project was successfully stalled. Thus began an unlikely alliance of local surfers, fishermen, and global environmental groups to save a wave and one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. In *The Battle for Paradise*, Jeremy Evans travels to Pavones to uncover the story of how this ragtag group stood up to a multinational company and how a shadowy figure from the town’s violent past became an unlikely hero. In this harrowing but ultimately inspiring story, Evans focuses in turn on a colorful cast of characters with an unyielding love for the ocean and surfing, a company’s unscrupulous efforts to expand profits, and a government that nearly sold out the perfect wave.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Don't miss this uplifting tale of fantastic surfing, saving the environment, and a greedy company's efforts to expand their business at all costs—all in our sleepy little southern town of Pavones." —Carol Blair Vaughn, Costa Rica Star (Carol Blair Vaughn Costa Rica Star 2015-09-29) "A valuable addition to surf historiography. . . . Enjoyable and well-told narrative." —Tolga Ozyurtcu, Sport in American History (Tolga Ozyurtcu Sport in American History 2016-04-02) "Congratulations to Jeremy Evans for telling the truest story so far about Pavones, the iconic end-of-the-road place where human greed and conflict threatened to destroy exactly what brought people there." —Drew Kampion, award-winning author and former editor of *The Surfer* and *The Surfing* magazines (Drew Kampion 2015-03-04) "Jeremy Evans tells the true story of surfers, tuna, drug lords, and jungle fever in the backwaters and blue bays of Costa Rica. For anyone who has traveled the surf coast of Central America, *The Battle for Paradise* is a must-read." —Serge Dedina, executive director of Wildcoast and author of *The Wild Sea* and *The Surfing the Border* (Serge Dedina 2015-03-04) "The waves of Pavones rifle down a long left-hand point break, and for this reason they have become some of the most iconic waves in Costa Rica. However, as incredible as the waves are, the story behind the town is what will truly leave you gasping for air." —Kyle Thiermann, professional surfer (Kyle Thiermann 2015-03-04) "Pavones, Costa Rica, lay in a bucolic slumber until an entrepreneurial American smuggler with a Napoleon complex paid cash for a county-sized chunk of its surf-swept coast and made himself king. Things spiraled out of control from there, subsiding into a tropical stew of escapists, surfers, squatters, greed, and long, clean lefts." —Steve Pezman, publisher of the *Surfer's Journal* (Steve Pezman 2015-03-04)

Jeremy Evans is a former daily newspaper reporter whose eight-year journalism career garnered numerous awards for his outdoor and sports writing. He is the author of *In Search of Powder: A Story of America's Disappearing Ski Bum* (Nebraska, 2010) and currently teaches English at Lake Tahoe Community College and South Tahoe High School in California.

This was a gift for a friend who lives in Costa Rica...who loves to read "real" books. She has been looking forward to reading this book. She lives close to Golfito and all the great surfing beaches in Costa Rica.

Great book!! I've been going to the southern Pacific coast of Costa for over a decade. This book was an eye-opener! Because I knew the area it was about, it made it more personal.

Excellent.

The Battle For Paradise is one of the best environmental based books I read in 2015. It is a true story of epic surfing, greedy developers and a paradise trying to retain its environmental integrity. The story is about several people, including an American named Dan Fowlie, surfers, Costa Rican lawyers and the local people of a pristine Costa Rica town in danger from greed of developers. . Its a story of the people of a sacred land standing with integrity and justice to fight for what is rightfully Mother Earths against said developer. The descriptions of Costa Rica are all quite well written and bring these pristine area to the reader . The injustice of what is attempted to destroy this area will shock the reader . The strength of the people and the attorneys will inspire you. I commend the author who has told this story with integrity and truth. Pavones must be saved from senseless development and here he stands for what is right with the people, surfers and iconic environmentalists to fight for this area of paradise. It is through his experience as a reporter that he tells this story so well and his documentation is flawless. Well Done. As a avid environmentalist I recommend this book for home libraries and all that stand against injustice of greedy developers for land, people and the environment. Cross posted on Goodreads and for the publisher. Excellent book!

It is fascinating and yet it got to be a sort of slog as I read the book. It's about a small isolated place in Costa Rica, which wind patterns and currents give in the right season one of the great waves of the Pacific for surfing. People who want to preserve surfing are fighting --still fighting-- to prevent the kind of development that might destroy the surfing experience if not the wave itself--in the form of a tuna farm. Wild yellowfin would be captured, raised in cages and marketed, and pollution would vastly alter the area. The story winds around several people, including an American named Dan Fowlie, various surfers, Costa Rican lawyers and others. It's way too complicated to explain in a review. Convolution follows convolution, all quite well written about. Costa Rica appears a bit less

environmentally saintly and rather capricious. In a sense the story is how surfing has evolved a rather potent environmentalism and this is in some ways a case study. It is a fascinating story, but one that I found tedious, after I got hooked by the first few dozen pages.

Complicated history in Costa Rica. Great information !!!!!!!

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Surfing: Surfing - A beginners Guide (Surfing, Learn to Surf, Surfing made easy, Surfzone, How to surf, Surfing lesson)  
Surfing California: A Guide To The Best Breaks And Sup-Friendly Spots On The California Coast (Surfing Series)  
Surfing Australia: A Guide to the Best Surfing Down Under (Periplus Action Guides)  
Kook: What Surfing Taught Me About Love, Life, and Catching the Perfect Wave North Shore  
Chronicles: Big-Wave Surfing in Hawaii The Big Drop: Classic Big Wave Surfing Stories  
Surfing 2018 12 x 12 Inch Monthly Square Wall Calendar, Ocean Sea Beach Wave Sport  
Surfing Illustrated: A Visual Guide to Wave Riding (International Marine-RMP)  
Ghost Wave: The Discovery of Cortes Bank and the Biggest Wave on Earth  
Ghost Wave: The True Story of the Biggest Wave on Earth and the Men Who Challenged It  
Electromagnetic Wave Propagation, Radiation, and Scattering: From Fundamentals to Applications (IEEE Press Series on Electromagnetic Wave Theory)  
Wave Scattering from Rough Surfaces (Springer Series on Wave Phenomena)  
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The 5th Wave: The First Book of the 5th Wave Series  
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Welcome to Paradise, Now Go to Hell: A True Story of Violence, Corruption, and the Soul of Surfing  
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