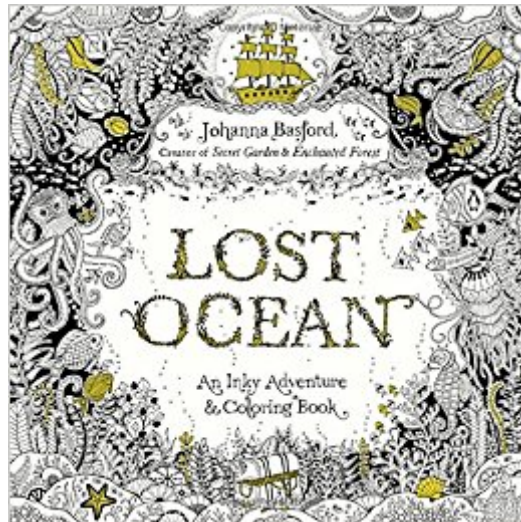


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# Lost Ocean: An Inky Adventure And Coloring Book For Adults



## Synopsis

From the creator of the worldwide bestsellers *Secret Garden* and *Enchanted Forest*, a beautiful new adult coloring book that takes you on a magical journey beneath the waves. With this coloring book for adults, Johanna Basford invites color-lovers of all ages to discover an enchanting underwater world hidden in the depths of the sea. Through intricate pen and ink illustrations to complete, color, and embellish, readers will meet shoals of exotic fish, curious octopuses, and delicately penned seahorses. Visit coral reefs and barnacle-studded shipwrecks, discover intricate shells and pirate treasure. *Secret Garden* and *Enchanted Forest* fans and newcomers alike will welcome this creative journey into an inky new world. For *Lost Ocean*, Johanna picked a crisp ivory paper that accentuates and complements your chosen color palette. The smooth, untextured pages allow for beautiful blending or gradient techniques with colored pencils or are perfect for pens, allowing the nib to glide evenly over the surface without feathering.

## Book Information

Paperback: 80 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 1,600 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,070 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in *Books > Teens > Hobbies & Games > Games & Activities* #10 in *Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists* #47 in *Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Coloring Books for Grown-Ups*

## Customer Reviews

PRAISE FOR JOHANNA BASFORD'S COLORING BOOKS "The colorists have a queen, and her name is Johanna Basford." *New York Magazine* "Consider trading in your yoga mat for a set of markers and peruse the gorgeous gardens of Basford's imagination." *Huffington Post* "Artist Johanna Basford is at the forefront of the grown up coloring trend. Her whimsical artwork just makes us want to drop all our responsibilities and color forever." *Hello Giggles* "This is a breathtakingly beautiful coloring book, full of detail, whimsy, and possibilities. Inspiration invades at the turn of the first page and is guaranteed to

capture the imagination and attention of any artist young and old." – The Children's Book Review

Johanna Basford is an illustrator and ink evangelist who prefers pens and pencils to pixels. Her intricate, hand-drawn illustrations are loved the world over by those who have colored in (sometimes more than once) her bestselling books Johanna's Christmas, Magical Jungle, Lost Ocean, Secret Garden, and Enchanted Forest. Johanna is a graduate of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design in Dundee. She likes sugar mice, floral teacups, peonies, and bumblebees. Visit her online at [johannabasford.com](http://johannabasford.com).

Johanna Basford is the designer who started my hobby of adult coloring books with her genre defining book, *Secret Garden* and her equally fantastic follow-up *Enchanted Forest*. With her newest book, *Lost Ocean*, she builds upon the stunningly beautiful and extremely intricate designs that I have come to expect from her. The subject of the coloring book is the ocean. There are so many designs, including: sailing ships, mermaids, fish, sea mammals, jellyfish, and shipwrecks and more flora of the deep than I can count, each page is a wonderful experience in coloring. There seems to be about 80 designs to color which is less than in both of her earlier books. The book is also a hunt for hidden items and there is a key for what you are looking for as well as where they can be found. There is a picture of an octopus that reminds me way too much of Homer Simpson. I may have to color its head yellow with white and blue tentacles. The one disappointing thing about this book is the paper. It seemed that the artist and publisher had finally understood the need for thicker and/or better paper. Recent versions of *Secret Garden* had improved paper so much so, that this note is now included at the top of the page in all italics and with caps "Good news for all SECRET GARDEN fans! All editions of SECRET GARDEN now feature thicker and heavier paper stock, fighting bleed-through from ink pens." From my point of view, one would think *Lost Ocean* would have the upgraded paper. It does not. In fact, it does not even have the same publisher. The paper is thinner and is worse and not as good as the last book. Maybe that is because of the change in publisher, but the artist and her staff should have verified what grade of paper was being used. The artwork makes up for this but I really wish an artist of this caliber's work was presented in the best possible way. The book (except for a single four page spread design at the back of the book) it is not perforated and almost every marker I have bleeds through. I can use

my pencils and my gel pens. As with her previous books, the designs are printed on both sides of the paper. As I know that I love to use my markers, I have already purchased a second copy of the book so I don't have to choose a medium based on what happens to the backside of my page. I don't do this for many books, but I have found that I prefer to do so with Ms. Basford's as I want to color every page. I decided to purchase the UK version of the book as my second copy as I have heard that it uses a heavier weight paper than the US version. As I am disappointed in the paper in the US version, I'm curious to see the difference between the two when it arrives in 2-3 weeks. I was so pleased to find this book and my new, relaxing hobby of coloring. I design needlework for my day job but that contains a lot of stress (deadlines, trying to perfect the pattern, etc.) Coloring has become my way of relaxing at the end of a day (with music in the background, too!) I find that it helps me fall asleep with an easier mind.

This is my first adult coloring book. I really do love it. There's a nice blend of intricate, detailed areas for folks that like close up coloring and areas that are bigger for those that enjoy large area coloring. I personally like both and would be pretty disappointed if there wasn't a blend of both. The one thing that I would like to see improvement on is the paper quality. Although the thickness is nice and my markers do not leak through, if I blend too much, the paper starts to disintegrate. I'm using Tombow 10 pack markers in "Jelly Bean".

I'm so sad. I really liked her original books, Enchanted Forest and Secret Garden. THIS ONE IS NOT LIKE THEM WHEN IT COMES TO ACTUAL COLORING EXPERIENCE! There are some differences in the paper color being more white in this book vs the other two being more of a natural recycled color. They might not look as "cool" sitting out on a coffee table together. The outer wrapper/book cover on this Lost Ocean book is attached and doesn't come off. It has the same format of looking for "lost items" within a picture and some are two page spreads, etc. I pre-ordered this one, but have to say, if it didn't cost me money to return, it would be going back. Now a teenage girl will be getting this for Christmas. They seem to have forgotten who their target market is.... ADULTS! Make no mistake, if the pictures were blown up in a larger size I would be happy. This book doesn't have much opportunity for outlining or shading techniques simply due to the size of the majority of the pictures. Granted, not all of the pictures are as tightly detailed as some of the photos but the majority of the pages are. (My guess 80-85% finely detailed). You can see from the photos, if you are younger and can see better (I use 1.25 to 1.50 reading glasses) you will probably still need to buy a new set of markers that are .3mm like the STAEDTLER TRIPLUS FINELINER for the

colors to show up much. Even the Prismacolor Verithin pencils that can maintain a sharper tip with an excellent sharpener will be a bit of a challenge to show up and stay in the lines in numerous water bubbles through out the book. They are that tiny. I have included pictures of different types of pens and pencils and my experience with them.

NOTES FROM MY USE: Please realize that my observations aren't exact for this book because I made a "quality" heavier weight paper copy for my demonstration since this will be a gift now. I frequently use this same paper coloring other images though and have been happy with it. So my experience in the different challenges staying in the lines and pressing hard enough to try to get the colors to show up isn't a difference for me. The only difference really is the size of the picture. I found that the Sakura gel pen (light green) pretty much pooled trying to color two small circles with it. It did better than I thought it would, but they wouldn't be my first choice for using unless it's just in a larger area of the picture. The Turquoise Extra Fine Sharpie did better than I thought it would too, but then they can bleed through the other side potentially. The Crazy Art Deep Plum colored in the sea horses eye was meant to color just the outer circle of the eye and, granted the tip isn't perfectly sharp, but it colored the whole eye and it looks brown not deep plum. There isn't enough of an area for the color to show up much with this cheaper/lower quality pencil. I tried a Colbalt Green Polychromo pencil (looks more turquoise green) in the bottom left corner of the picture on a few dots and lines and while these tips aren't the sharpest, it still managed to show up and color the tiny bubbles. I was surprised that it worked so well. The powdery creamy texture seemed to just "stick" immediately where I put it. Unfortunately, Polychromos are some of the most expensive pencils on the market. My small set of 36 wasn't cheap. The tips on these actually feel (and are) larger in size than the Prismacolor Verithins. So, I'm not necessarily saying buy these for this book, but you might be happy with the Polychromos. I'm not happy enough with the book to keep it anyway. The Marco Raffine Orange pencil did "OK" on staying in the lines but the waxy sheen in such a small space seemed to make it not as bright as I had hoped for. The (black wavy pen barrel) Hot Pink Extra Fine Sharpie tip seemed to sort of bend down while I was trying to color one of the specks with it. I don't recommend that style of Sharpie for the tiniest places. The standard Extra Fine Sharpie tip seems a little shorter and less likely to bend with pressure, but again there's the bleed through factor to consider. The STAEDTLER TRIPLUS FINELINER 0.3 mm light blue marker shows up well and stayed in the lines and didn't bend when using. I have no idea if it can bleed through or not though since I'm not using the actual paper in the book. Based on feel, I think the weight of the paper is the same with this Ocean book versus the older Secret Garden etc. Other reviewers have previously said that the TRIPLUS Fineliners didn't bleed through, but I just used pencils and gel pens coloring in my book, so I can't say for sure. The

Violet Prismacolor Verithin in the stripes in the tail of the fish show up well and stayed in the lines, but the curvy grass and the bubbles colored in with the Bleu Violet Prismacolor Verithin didn't stay in the lines as well. These are some of the sharpest and darkest pencils out there.. But the grass was still a little bit of a challenge. Who might like this book: IF YOU LIKE ZEN TANGLES.. DRAWING AND COLORING THEM.... You might not agree with my thoughts.. and be perfectly happy with this detailed challenge. If you have makers that work well for you that are . 3 mm and you know for a fact they won't bleed through, you might be happy. If you don't mind coloring larger sections of details within the picture all the same colors to make things easier and more realistic for staying within the lines for the pens or pencils you are using, you might be happy. If you don't need reading glasses and enjoy coloring the tiniest of spaces.. You might like this edition a lot. It might even be your favorite! BEWARE: If you want to be able to immediately start coloring when you get this book using the same materials you used in the last books... you might find out that the details are harder than you think, to either get to show up or stay inside the lines due to the actual picture size differences. The 4th picture shows part of a picture from one of the older books versus this new size of detail. If you have bad arthritis in your hands it might not be worth the effort no matter how much you want to like this book...the devil is in the details.. LOL .. That is where I am at. :(

I have two previous books from Ms Basford (gace raving 5 star rating) and I preordered 3 copies for myself and my girls who really loved Enchanted Forest. I just opened Lost Ocean and I'm soooo disappointed. This is my least favorite book out of the three. The drawings are beautiful and intricate, however, it is almost impossible to color because the spaces are so tiny. Color pencils will not work in these tiny spaces. You will need ultra fine liners of some sort. Go for 0.5mm or even less. Other wise it will not color the many many teeny tiny spaces and you will be coloring outside the lines.

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