



THIS FAST-PACED, HIGHLY READABLE BOOK RECOUNTS THE extraordinary life of Mike Bruton, one of the leading fish biologists in Africa. Mike was born in the town where the first living coelacanth was discovered and studied at Rhodes University in South Africa at the same time as the great ichthyologist, Professor JLB Smith, who first described 'old fourlegs'. Mike became Director of the Ichthyology Institute named after Smith and pioneered searches for the coelacanth in southern and eastern Africa. Together with colleagues from all over the world he made many new discoveries on the biology of this extraordinary fish and campaigned internationally for the conservation of the coelacanth.

Mike's research on the freshwater fishes of Africa and the Middle East lead to entanglements with crocodiles, hippopotami, giant snakes and military operations but also allowed him to contribute to international efforts to conserve wetlands and endangered species. Whether you are a naturalist, fisherman, aquarist or sushi eater, you will be fascinated by these astonishing tales of a man who almost became a fish!



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Mike Bruton

When I was a FISH



"This remarkable and highly readable book will appeal to all naturalists."

- ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH



When I was a
FISH



Tales of an
ICHTHYOLOGIST

Mike Bruton