

A Whale of a Time

- (1) Whales traverse thousands of miles in their lifetimes, but for one humpback whale that washed up dead on a beach near Vancouver, Canada, a new journey is beginning.
- (2) Authorities will tow the colossal carcass through the ocean up to North Vancouver Island to Telegraph Cove.
- (3) Once it arrives, Mother Nature will take over as the flesh gradually decomposes and washes away.
- (4) “We have to clean all the bones,” explained Captain Jim Borrowman from the Whale Interpretive Centre.
- (5) “We sink them under water for a period of time, probably at least a year.
- (6) Then they are brought back up, and we clean them up.
- (7) Eventually, we have the bones re-articulated, which means to be put back together.”
- (8) Marine scientists will re-assemble the skeleton for display in a museum.
- (9) Some whales wash up on beaches posthumously.
- (10) But many become stranded in low tide and die due to dehydration, the body collapsing under its own weight, or by drowning when the tide comes back in and covers the whale’s blowhole.

語注

a whale of a time 素晴らしい時

(1) traverse 横断する、越える humpback whale ザトウクジラ

(2) tow 綱や鎖などで引っ張る colossal 巨大な carcass 死体、死骸

(3) decompose 分解する、腐敗する

(4) interpretive center 資料館

(7) articulate 関節接合する

(9) posthumously 死後に

(10) strand 岸に乗り上げさせる low tide 干潮 dehydration 脱水症 blowhole 噴気孔