



PalmArtPress

## Kevin McAleer *Surferboy*

Steve wants to be a surfer – one of those demi-gods who walk on water. But for a kid from the San Fernando Valley who's scared of the ocean this is no easy task. Through his encounters with tough Malibu locals, shady surfboard designers, haole-hating Hawaiians, uptight surf stars, sex-hungry surf groupies and stoned big-wave riders, Steve learns the humorous as well as the darker side of surfing. With finely honed irony and a lightness of touch, Kevin McAleer tells a story of friendship, coming of age in the 1970s, and the fascination of surfing – while also imparting a wealth of knowledge that can compete with any how-to book on the sport (including an extensive surf glossary as appendix).

*The evolution of surfing in Southern California in the 1970s is grippingly told. It is through a precise description of those social conventions which surfers put beginners through that the author shows his intimate knowledge of the subject. Whether you're a kook, pro or non-surfer, you'll like this book.*

– SURFERS

*Surferboy is a cleverly arranged bildungsroman and the story of a subculture's decline and fall.*

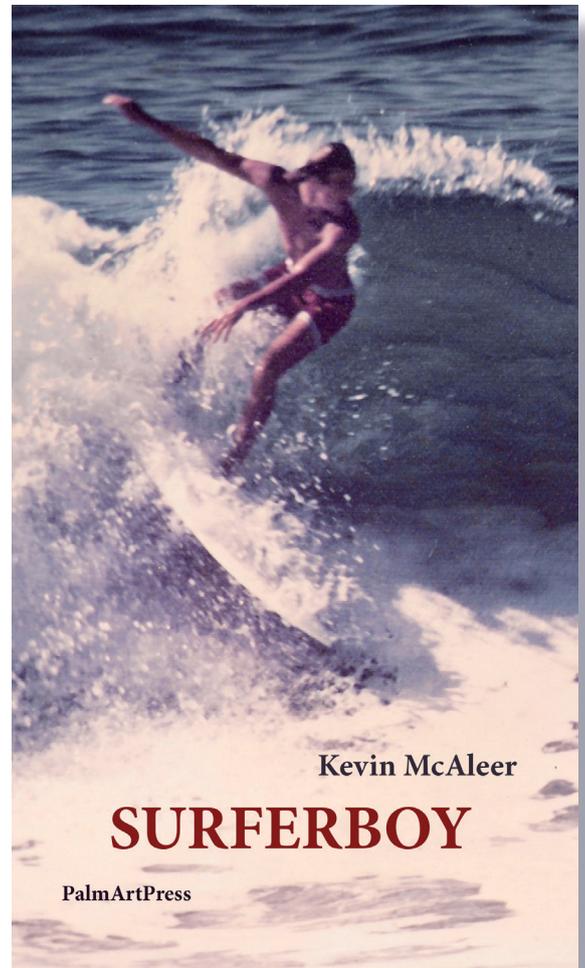
– DER TAGESSPIEGEL

*A wonderful summer book, above all for ex-surfers, but also for those who have always wanted to be initiated into the secrets of this sport.*

– NORDDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK



Kevin McAleer grew up in Los Angeles, received his doctorate in history from the University of California, and now lives as a writer and translator in Berlin. His stories have appeared in both German and American periodicals. Notable among his books are the epic poem ERROL FLYNN: AN EPIC LIFE (PalmArtPress 2018), which eminent film critic Rex Reed praised as “a daring adventure in biographical refurbishment,” and the historical monograph DUELING: THE CULT OF HONOR IN FIN-DE-SIÈCLE GERMANY (Princeton Legacy Library 2014), a social portrait of duelists in Imperial Germany which *The Wall Street Journal* commended as “vivid and appalling” and the *Encyclopedia Britannica* acclaimed one of its “Books of the Year.”



Novel

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