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## BOOKS

### "The Wave": A Thrilling Ride!

Home News Tribune Online 09/7/05

By MARA ZUKOWSKI  
CORRESPONDENT

Disaster plots originating with acts of terrorism are even more terrifying in a post 9/11 world. Wil Mara's new book, "The Wave" (Plexus Publishing), delivers its punch with such force that the tension will be palpable as you quickly turn each page of this thriller.

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The novel is based on the premise that a terrorist on board a transatlantic flight is thwarted in his attempt to deliver a "dirty" bomb to Washington. Instead, panic ensues in the air, and the plane crashes 600 miles off the coast of New Jersey, spawning a tsunami that is headed for vacationers on Long Beach Island.

The action switches back and forth from a marine monitoring station in Tuckerton to various characters who inhabit LBI as preparation begins for a massive evacuation of the island. Chapters count down the time remaining from the 2 1/2 hours when the tsunami is first spotted.

This is a fast-paced, nail-biting treat for the reader, especially those of you who are familiar with the New Jersey vacation spot. Mara uses real locales as backdrops for his action and sustains the suspense by following specific colorful characters who live in this summer haven.

The panic generated by a total evacuation of the island highlights the inadequacies of our alleged "preparedness" for catastrophes of this sort. "The Wave" is an exciting but frightening glimpse of an all-too-plausible scenario. Read it at your own risk.

Mara Zukowski, 52, lives in South River.

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