

## Bethany Hamilton



Born in Hawaii in 1990, Bethany Hamilton began competitive surfing **since** she was 8. When she was 9 she had **already** earned her first sponsorship. **Since** the beginning of 2003 she ranked high places in important local and national competitions.

She had been surfing **for** 5 years when she suffered a shark attack and lost her left arm. That day she went to practice with her best friend Alana and Alana's family. She was lying on her board when she felt intense pressure on her arm. She hadn't comprehended anything **yet** when she saw the water was red. She had **already** lost so much blood that she was unconscious for some time. Since the accident of the morning of October 31st, 2003, Bethany didn't want to keep apart from surfing regardless of her new condition. It hadn't been two months after the attack **yet** when Bethany returned to surf. In 2004 she was honored for her courage by MTV, ESPN and the United States Sports Academy. She won a national title in 2005 when not even 2 years had passed **since** the accident **yet**. By 2007 she had **already** started competing in the pro circuit.

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**Since** her story became popular, Bethany has **already** shared her experience in documentaries and appeared in many TV programs. Bethany's return to surf was portrayed in a documentary, which inspired a movie in 2011. **Since** 2012

she met pastor Adam Dirks, who later married her in 2013. **For** some months after her marriage she wrote her second book "Body and Soul" and involved in a documentary about women surfers. Even with all this work, she hadn't lost her level **yet**, she won the Surf 'n' Sea Pipeline Women's Pro event in March 2014. She became mother of Tobias on June 1st, 2015.

## References

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