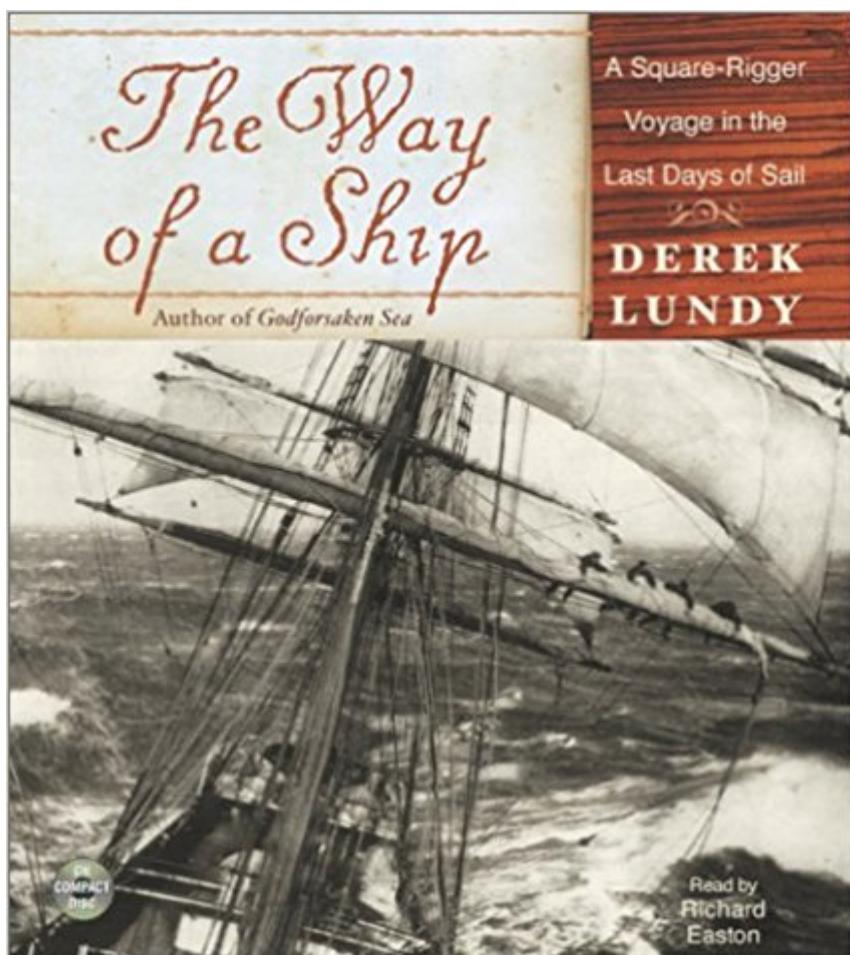


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The Way Of A Ship CD: A Square-Rigger Voyage In The Last Days Of Sail



Synopsis

When, as a young man in the 1880s, Benjamin Lundy signed up for unimaginably hard duty aboard a square-rigged commercial sailing vessel -- one destined for a treacherous, white-knuckle passage round that notorious "graveyard of ships," Cape Horn -- he had no idea that his experience would also provide a window into an epochal transition that would fundamentally change a man's relation to the sea. *The Way of a Ship* is a mesmerizing account of Benjamin's life on board the square-rigger Beara Head. It evokes both the romance and brutality of that bygone era and illuminates the history of square-rigger seamen and the last days of the "beautiful, widow-making, deep-sea" sailing ships. Derek Lundy's masterful account of his forebear's journey reminds readers what Melville and Conrad expressed so well: that the sea voyage is an overarching metaphor for life itself. Read by Richard Easton.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lundy draws on the experiences of a great-great uncle to track the scary 1880s voyage of the merchant ship Beara Head around Cape Horn. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A seaman himself, Lundy interpolates his own experiences under sail, nicely contrasting modern-day standards and mindsets with 19th-century conditions and attitudes" *The Times* "Lundy, too, has saltwater in his blood and his knowledge of the most arcane seafaring terms and traditions, coupled with careful research on 19th-century square-rigger voyages, makes this a tremendously elucidating, frequently thrilling read-he writes with verve and authority" *Sunday Telegraph* "With this

book Lundy leaps into the front ranks of maritime historians" Sunday Times "An exceptionally rich and satisfying weave. Hoisting sail aboard his ship Beara Head in 1885, Lundy sails her on an enthralling voyage through maritime literature, history, sociology and folklore... Heir to the tradition of Dana, Melville and Conrad" -- Jonathan Raban "Excellent... Lundy has researched the subject deeply and writes about it with feeling... Powerful, convincing and enthralling" Times Literary Supplement --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My Son, Brendan gave me a copy of this book for my eightieth Birthday recently and it is a treasure; I could feel the cold and wet working into my oilskins and my hands and arms did not start to recover until we had weathered Cape Stiff. Yes, I said we because this is a probably mostly true and factual story about blue water sailors learning to climb the heights on masts, finding almost inhuman reserves of energy when survival is at stake and feeling a sense of accomplishment when looking back on the voyage; making mere men into blue water sailors who largely get along under difficult circumstances better than most. To feel as if you were and are a true seafarer you had to be a successful Cape Horn sailor, everything else pales in comparison. A truly well done book about the Lundy family.

I read another book, same title (The Way of a Ship), different author (Alan Villiers) now out of print, a long time ago, and enjoyed it immensely. This is in a similar vein, and it captures the romance of commerce under sail, as well as the extreme challenges faced by a very small handful of men. These monster machines were operated almost entirely by hand by shockingly under-strength crews living for months on end in intolerable conditions with grievous injury or death a constant threat by indifferent gales and malevolent seas. An amazing tale which attempts to answer the question, but leaves you still wondering, "How did they do it?" If you've ever looked wistfully at a tall ship and dreamed of the romantic adventure of going to sea, this excellent tale will cure you of that notion.

My Dad was a deep water sailing ship Captain, having first been around the Horn at 19 years of age, so the narration is all delightfully familiar to me. It is well narrated, and immerses you in the tale.

Good read. Although it's basically a fictional story, it's much like Moby Dick in that it's nautically and historically correct. Sailing the Cape, or the open ocean, in a sail ship is not for the faint of heart.

It's a interesting book, great to read.

This was not the book that we thought it was. Derek Lundy used the title of a much better book by Alan Villiers--printed in 1970. Lundy even cited the Villiers book but it was just a book written to ride the popularity of the Villiers book. We had to go to a rare book site to buy the real book by Villiers. It was a waste of our money.

The book was delivered promptly and in very good condition, though I noted a "Not for Sale - Proof Copy" title on the front. The book is well written, entertaining, and very authentic.

The way of a Ship / Terek Lundy This purchase was a mistake and I am simply unable to start the reading, although I tried. I am collecting/reading "the real thing" on the sail era, written by those who were then involved. (Am finding texts in English, Dutch, French & a bit in German - unfortunately, I do not read Swedish/Finnish). Maybe Mr Terek Lundy is an excellent author, but this book is not what I was looking for. R Gromm ©

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