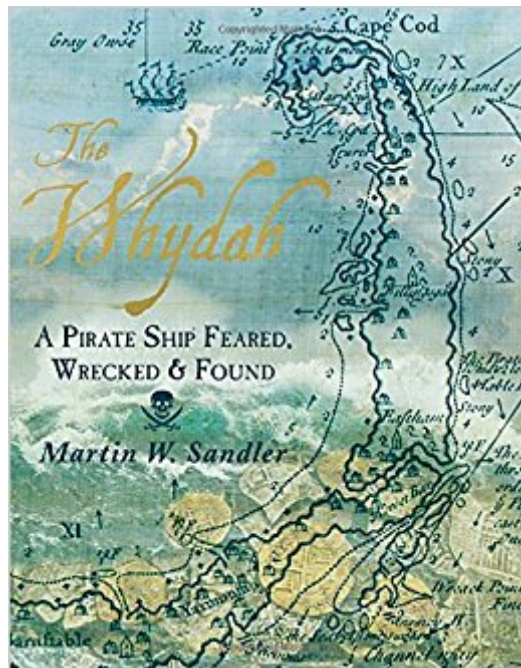




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The Whydah: A Pirate Ship Feared, Wrecked, And Found



Synopsis

The exciting true story of the captaincy, wreck, and discovery of the Whydah – the only pirate ship ever found – and the incredible mysteries it revealed. The 1650s to the 1730s marked the golden age of piracy, when fearsome pirates like Blackbeard ruled the waves, seeking not only treasure but also large and fast ships to carry it. The Whydah was just such a ship, built to ply the Triangular Trade route, which it did until one of the greediest pirates of all, Black Sam Bellamy, commandeered it. Filling the ship to capacity with treasure, Bellamy hoped to retire with his bounty – but in 1717 the ship sank in a storm off Cape Cod. For more than two hundred years, the wreck of the Whydah (and the riches that went down with it) eluded treasure seekers, until the ship was finally found in 1984 by marine archaeologists. The artifacts brought up from the ocean floor are priceless, both in value and in the picture they reveal of life in that much-mythologized era, changing much of what we know about pirates.

Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Sandler's approach to the Whydah and other submerged ships as "sunken time capsules" is an interesting angle that is sure to resonate with aspiring archaeologists. A captivating read on pirates, with insights into contemporary underwater research techniques. Considering the popularity

of the subject, this volume will likely not sit on shelves long. — •School Library Journal (starred review) Sandler offers an insightful look at how different the realities of pirate life were compared to how it has been mythologized in popular culture...A fascinating, vivid look at what one shipwreck reveals about the realities of the "Golden Age of Piracy." — •Kirkus Reviews This book brings to life...The account of the challenges Clifford and his crew had to face to find the Whydah is very thorough. — •School Library Connection Sandler's broad research and his evident fascination with the subject result in a multifaceted story that many readers will find rewarding. — •Booklist Sandler keeps the multiple threads of Whydah's story running smoothly, even integrating legends about Bellamy and the haunted wreckage seamlessly into the factual information...Weighing in well under two hundred pages, this quick high interest read is an ideal recommendation for kids who "have to read a nonfiction book," and pirate and archaeology enthusiasts will certainly be thrilled. — •Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Sandler enlivens the historical narrative by fleshing out the biographical details of the cast of characters, sharing (and occasionally debunking) various myths and legends, providing an overview of the relevant social and economic factors of the day, and spotlighting the work of excavating the shipwreck site. Useful photographs, maps, and sidebars are interspersed throughout, while source notes, bibliography, and index are appended. — •The Horn Book Fast-paced, thorough, and fascinating, this choice is certain to especially hold the interest of any pirate lover and treasure hunter. — •Reading Eagle (from Kendal Rautzhan's "Books to Borrow")

Martin W. Sandler has written more than seventy books for children and adults, including *Iron Rails*, *Iron Men*, and *The Race to Link the Nation: The Story of the Transcontinental Railroad* and *The Impossible Rescue: The True Story of an Amazing Arctic Adventure*. Martin W. Sandler lives with his wife on Cape Cod.

After going to the Whydah Museum on Cape Cod, this book made clear the story, adventure, and history involved in discovering the only recovered Pirate Ship known today! My grandfather was a lover of author Edward Rowe Snow, and this hit home for me!

Wonderfully put together biography of the Whydah, and Black Sam Bellamy, one of the great pirates of the Golden Age

It was a bit of a disappointment, informative but not compelling

Very nice, in perfect condition. A fun short read.

They had me at pirate ship. What could be more exciting than finding the wreck of an actual ship used by pirates. It's like a puzzle that when pieced together can give us a clearer picture of the life pirates actually lived. Not the Hollywood version or even the version popularized by authors such as Robert Louis Stevenson in books such as Treasure Island. In this book, geared towards a young adult readership, the author provides a lot of factual information about pirate life in a very interesting manner. The text is accompanied by very detailed maps and period illustrations that help to get the reader involved in the search for the only shipwreck that has been authenticated to be an actual ship used by pirates. Book provided for review by LibraryThing.

A historical account of the Pirate ship Whydah and its rediscovery, with general info about life as a pirate as well as the underwater explorers who later try to recover sunken vessels and their contents. Easy to read, fascinating, and a good starting place for anyone interested in the subject. An intriguing book for teens and adults alike.LT Early Reviewer

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