



HMS Surprise (Paperback)

By Patrick O Brian

HarperCollins Publishers, United Kingdom, 2002. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Patrick O Brian s Aubrey-Maturin tales are widely acknowledged to be the greatest series of historical novels ever written. H.M.S. Surprise follows the variable fortunes of Captain Jack Aubrey s career in Nelson s navy as he attempts to hold his ground against admirals, colleagues and the enemy, accepting a mission to convey a British ambassador to the East Indies. The voyage takes him and his friend Stephen Maturin to the strange sights and smells of the Indian sub-continent, and through the archipelago of spice islands where the French have a near-overwhelming superiority. Rarely has a novel managed to convey more vividly the fragility of a sailing ship in a wild sea. Rarely has a historical novelist combined action and lyricism of style in the way that O Brian does. His superb sense of place, brilliant characterisation, and a vigour and joy of writing lift O Brian above any but the most exalted of comparisons.



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