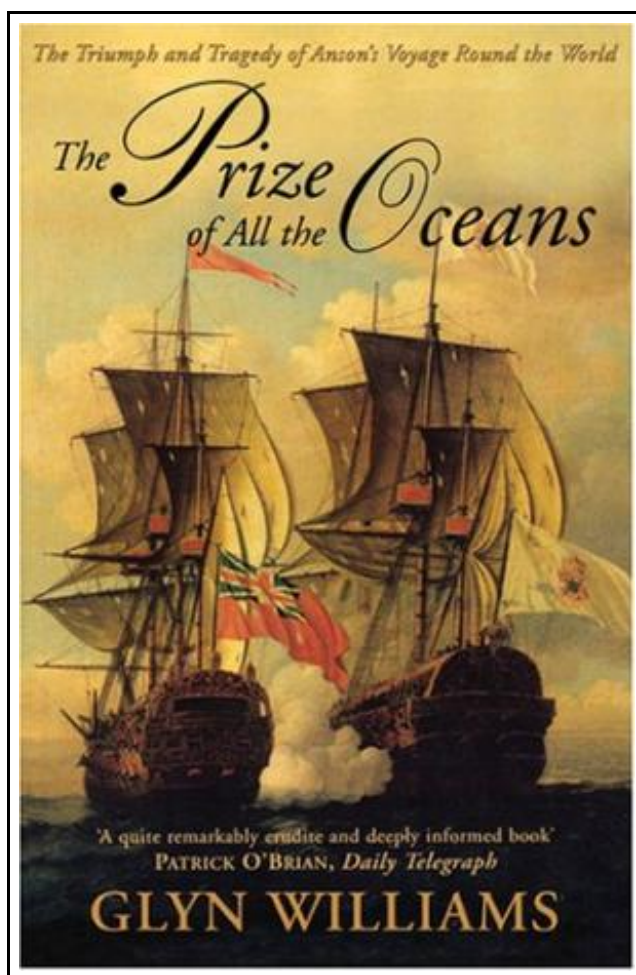


The Prize of All the Oceans: The Triumph and Tragedy of Anson's Voyage Round the World



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THE PRIZE OF ALL THE OCEANS: THE TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY OF ANSON S VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD

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HarperCollins Publishers, United Kingdom, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 197 x 130 mm. Language: N/A. Brand New Book. The startling history of Anson s voyage round the world in 1740. A quite remarkably erudite and deeply informed book Patrick O Brian, Daily Telegraph Anson s voyage of 1740-44 holds a unique and terrible place in British naval history. The misadventures of this first attempt by Royal Navy ships to sail round the world make a dramatic story of hardship, disaster, mutiny and heroism. Only one of Anson s squadron, the flagship Centurion, completed its mission. The other vessels were wrecked, scuttled or forced back in shattered condition. Out of 1850 officers and men who sailed from Spithead in September 1740, almost fourteen hundred died, most from disease or starvation. With crews ravaged by scurvy, Anson s ships were battered by relentless storms as they attempted to round Cape Horn. Two of the six men-of-war in the squadron turned back, their captains to face later accusations of desertion. A third, the Wager, was wrecked on a desolate island off the coast of Chile in circumstances in which all discipline vanished; Williams description of the ensuing mutiny and the survival of the largest group in a tiny makeshift vessel sailing hundreds of miles south to safety in appalling conditions is a classic account in what is set to be a classic sea history. When Anson reached the coast of China in November 1742 he was left with one ship and a handful of men, some of whom had turned mad and idiots . Despite this he was determined to capture The Prize of All the Oceans , the legendary Spanish treasure ship making its annual voyage from Acapulco to Manila. In this he succeeded, and returned home a hero; like Drake himself,...



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