

In the Heart of the Sea



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In the Heart of the Sea

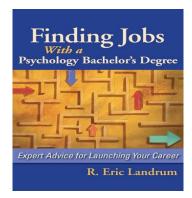
Okay, I never read the book by Herman Melville, only seeing the movie with Gregory Peck, but the author is mentioned in this account quite a few times. I will not say much about the contents as I don't want to spoil it, but this gives what to me is an in-depth look at what it means to be the survivor of a shipwreck in the olden days. There is a wonderful overlook at Nantucket Island and how island life is lived. It introduces readers to the captain, first mate and crew, and how they work with each other. You get quite a lot on the voyages of the Essex well before the attack so you get a feel for the difficulties between captain and inexperienced crew. You learn where things are stored

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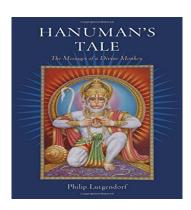


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Review 1:

Moby Dick is known as a masterpiece of fiction. Here, ?In the Heart of the Sea?, Nataniel Philbrick does his best to recreate those horrible circumstances and terrible choices that plagued the doomed whaleship Essex. He does quite well in digging through the letters of those few who survived this terrible ordeal. Philbrick, as a resident of Nantucket, certainly knows the Island and its history. He shows us what an economic powerhouse that place once was. He also details the ghastly methods used in killing the whales? and then gutting them- wasting most of the harvest- yet gleaning the ever so valuable oil. Philbrick reminds us that these whales were the oil industry, until Captain Drake showed how affordable capturing oil from the ground could be. Of course Drake died penniless. It seems that the oil industry- in its many forms, has always been cursed, as it even is today. For the crew of the whaleship Essex, it certainly was. This is a highly readable book that I certainly recommend.

You would, however, do well to avoid following this book by watching Ron Howard?s 2015 film. ?In the Heart of the Sea?. The screenwriters of the film massacre the story, and Howard?s dimestore, 1990?s CGI special effects are cringe worthy. I believe it to be possibly Ron Howard?s worst film ever.

Review 2:

Great nautical read and historical account of Mocha Dick aka Moby Dick

Review 3:

Loved the story.

Review 4:

Nathaniel Philbrick is easy to read. A great American story.

Review 5:

Great book!

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