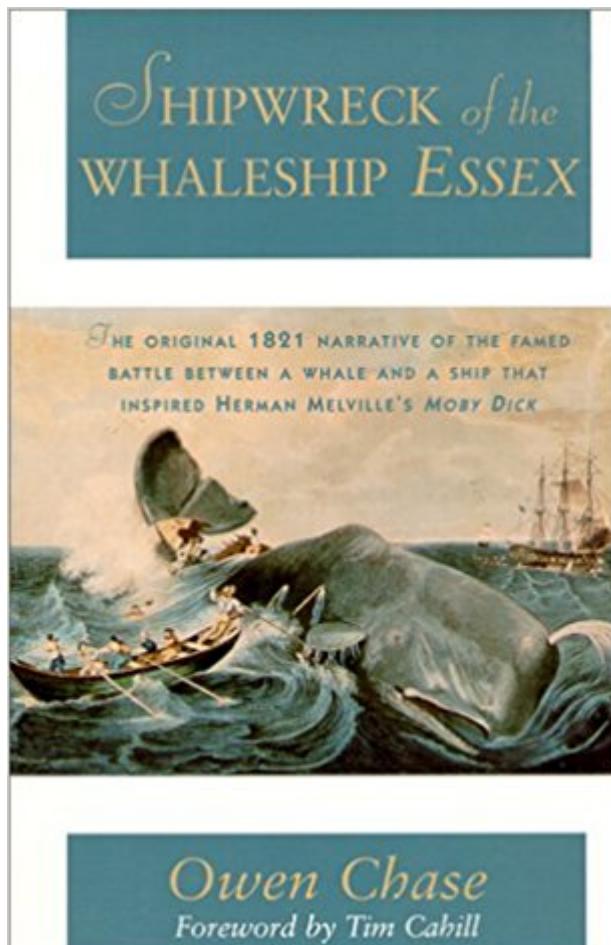


The book was found

Shipwreck Of The Whaleship Essex



Synopsis

An account of a ship's encounter with a great white whale.

Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: Lyons Press; 1st edition (August 1, 1999)

Language: English

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Customer Reviews

On November 20, 1820, the Nantucket whaler Essex had its sides stove in by an angry sperm whale, sending the ship to the bottom. Three months later, a handful of the surviving crew made it home after being forced to resort to cannibalism to stay alive. Their story as recorded by Chase in 1821 was a gripping tale read by many, including a young Herman Melville. This edition reprints the original text along with a new introduction, maps, and a facsimile of Melville's notes on Chase's book. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"The effect is kaleidoscopic. A vivid portrait emerges of the shipwrecked men's privations and fundamental moral dilemma: literally to eat or be eaten" -- Lawrence Norfolk "Chase's book still has an almost Biblical power" Mail on Sunday "An incredibly vivid journal of survival" Scotsman "The reading of this wondrous story...had a surprising effect on me" -- Herman Melville "When I found myself popping the notes I attach to potential quotes to virtually every page, I realised I might as well just deliver a rousing injunction to read the book for yourselves" -- Christina Hardymon Independent

I read this book years ago and wanted to read it again. It is the basis for Melville's Moby Dick and is

a harrowing true story of survival. Obviously, since I have purchased it again, I must have enjoyed it.

I truly enjoy a book that captivates my attention and makes me able to visualize being there and with the events that took place. Picked this book up and did not stop until I finished. I am an avid book reader and would very much suggest your reading this one.

Haven't read the book but scanned through it and it covers some of my family history. The coffins started out in Nantucket, coming from England and they were whalers.

This is an incredible real story of survival. Who can ever would have thought that a huge whale will struck the wooden ship with such ferocity, twice. Here you will learn what really thirst and hunger is, and what are the effects of that in the body in a prolonged situation. Three months they were in the sea, because of a bad decision of heading south to the coast of Chile instead of moving with the currents to the nearby Tahiti or other islands of the mid pacific. This book has the account of Chase, the captain and one of the shipmates that were left in Henderson Island (Google Earth: 24°43'S & 128°01'W). The few boat survivors were taken to Valparaiso (Chile) for recuperation before going back home. This is a great book and a story that you can also read in Nathaniel Philbrick's, *In the Heart of the Sea*, a book I read a few years ago. Enjoy!

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