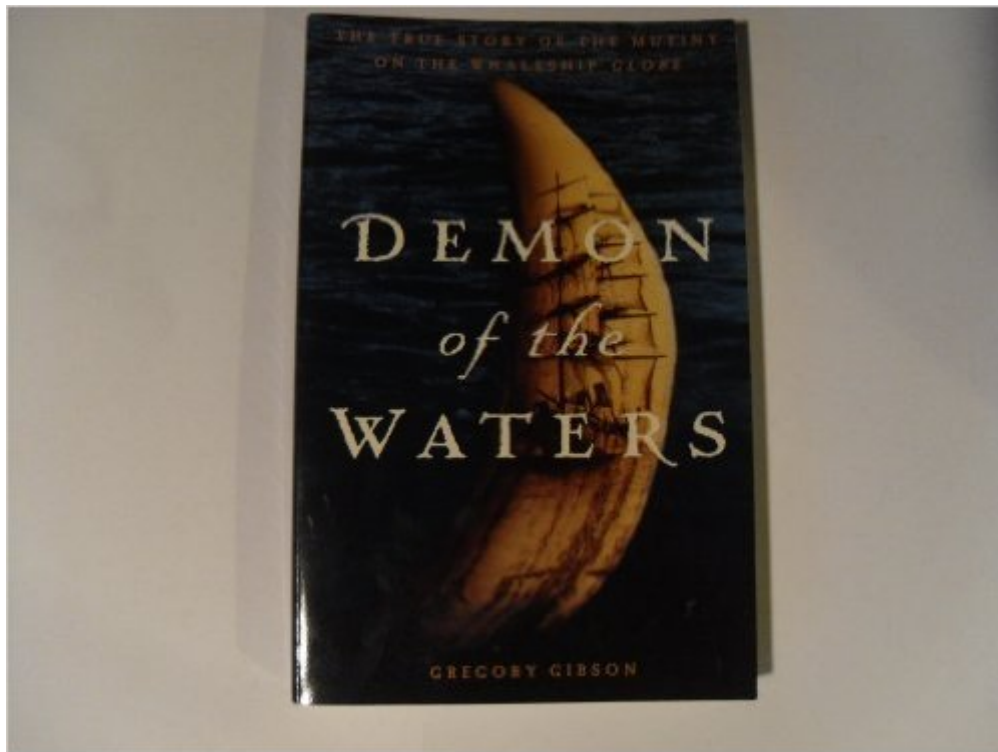


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Demon Of The Waters : The True Story Of The Mutiny On The Whaleship Globe



Synopsis

Demon of the Waters stands out from the rest of the books I've found in the whaling adventure genre. Gibson's research is unsurpassed. He provides such varied information on whaling to satisfy anyone's appetite for adventure and knowledge, providing background on how he came across the story of the Globe mutiny and what he discovered during the course of his quest to get to the root of the story as well as the history of whaleship making in Nantucket's heyday. Unlike many other books of this type, the author doesn't bog you down with chapter after chapter of excruciating biographical detail of every crew member aboard the ship. He skillfully chooses to include the relevant information that is pertinent to the story. The mutiny on the Globe is strikingly depicted; the story is unfathomable and never lacks for an unexpected twist. It will haunt you for many days after you finish the book! (customer)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a story about mutiny, a lost journal, and whaling. It begins by telling the reader of the lost journal and how it fell into the hands of the author, who is a used book seller. He is a very knowledgeable bookseller. The reader is the beneficiary of his careful research. We are informed of early U.S. diplomatic relations, political intrigue (often found in the end-notes), and possible literary connections with a famous author. In particular, I found the information about how ships and crews hunted and harvested whales to be rich and insightful. This knowledge alone is worth buying the book. Nevertheless, the reader is informed of the tight-knit whaling community of Nantucket and its

global importance in the whaling industry. The business of whaling is lightly explored. Nantucket's people were recognized as experts and sought after around the world. The author tells briefly of other countries who lured away the little island's whaling experts because of their vast knowledge of whaling. Then there is the story of the whaleship *Globe*. Unlike similar books, we are provided with the ship's history. We are taken on a particular voyage with a newly appointed captain and crew. It is this voyage which becomes notorious. The crew itself is mostly boys who are ultimately influenced (frightened?) by another older crew member with a subtle but foreboding history. The mutiny itself is descriptive and haunting--perhaps a vivid reminder of Hobbes' oft-used quote of life being "nasty, brutish, and short." What happens after the mutiny is as interesting as the events leading up to it. We have a daring escape from the mutineers with only PART the young crew. Without a navigator, they somehow find their way to a continent almost half a world away.

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