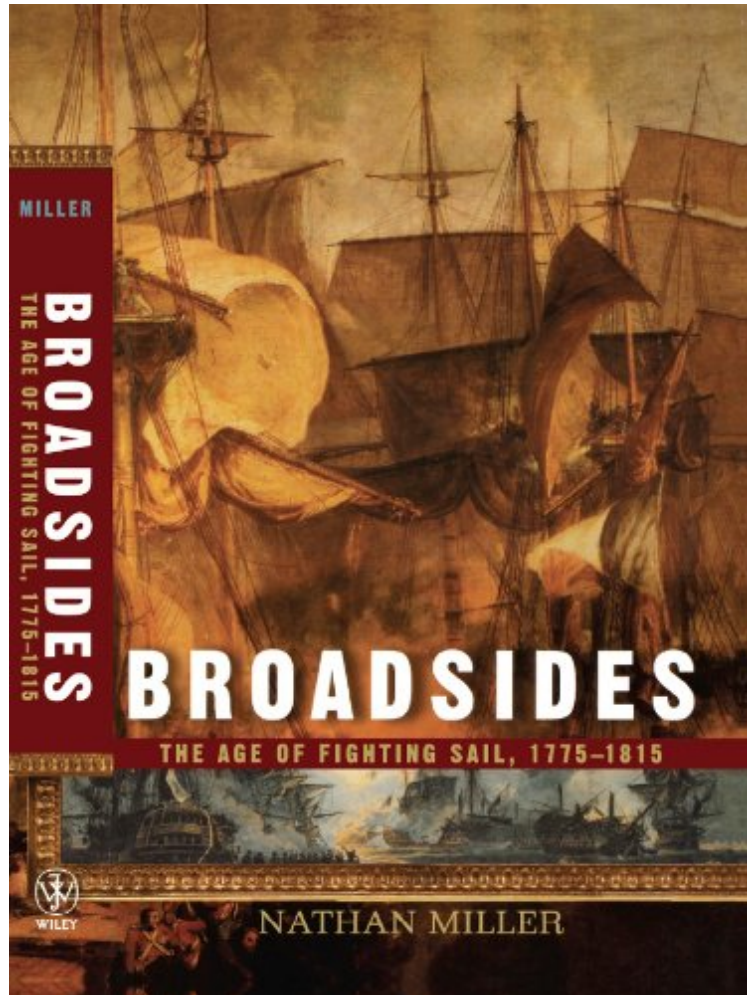


Broadsides: The Age of Fighting Sail, 1775-1815

Von Nathan Miller

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Von Nathan Miller : Broadships: The Age of Fighting Sail, 1775-1815 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Broadships: The Age of Fighting Sail, 1775-1815:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Non-fiction matches O'Brian's fictionVon Ein KundeThose who have liked Patrick O'Brian's great sea adventure novels are sure to welcome this factual narrative of the same period of war on the high seas. Miller not only gives the historical background of naval warfare in the age of sail, he tells how the ships and guns worked, how the sailors lived, how the admirals thought and fought. His subtitle on the age of sail might also have been "the age of Nelson," for he uses the life of the hero of Trafalgar to tie together the widespread action during the years from the American revolution to the War of 1812. One of the book's most memorable scenes is the day when Nelson first went on board a warship at the age of 12. As Miller tells of the rousing battles to follow, they are not just scattered outbursts of action around the

world; each takes on strategic meaning in relation to the others. This book is much better written than the typical history. Miller was a World War II sailor and has written a series of other naval histories; he knows both the subject and the lingo. His fluent narrative is founded on solid research. I recommend it as a companion volume to the works of O'Brian and C.S. Forester. It fully deserves five stars.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A fascinating and scholarly accountVon Jussi BjorlingThis is a great book! Instead of another recital of major battles, indistinguishable from one another, Nathan Miller has carefully selected a handful of examples to illustrate chosen themes in each chapter. Thus you learn a great deal about the lives of the men on board, of the officers who commanded them, and the admirals who ran the fleets, all set against a thoughtful background. The technological and social changes over this period are discussed intelligently, and will influence even the most knowledgeable reader. The book is a pleasure to read and highly informative.

KurzbeschreibungPraise for BROADSIDES"Pace the pitching black deck with a sleepless Admiral Nelson the night before battle bestows eternal rest and peerless immortality upon him; envision with Mahan the storm-tossed and ever-watchful ships-of-the-line that kept England secure from invasion; wonder in awe at Collingwood's dedication in working himself to death after Trafalgar elevated him to primary responsibility for England's imperial safety in the Mediterranean. All of this and more awaits the reader who will sail through these pages, every one of which is etched with the indelible expertise and boundless enthusiasm of Nathan Miller, master of naval history."--Kenneth J. Hagan, Professor of History and Museum Director Emeritus, U.S. Naval Academy, Professor of Strategy, U.S. Naval War College"This is not just inspired naval history--the personal lives of the seafarers themselves, from cabin boy to admiral, are given generous treatment."--The Times (London)"A wealth of detail...Descriptions of dreadful living conditions aboard cramped wooden vessels give way to bloody decks after close combat....A solid introduction to a turbulent era at sea."--Publishers Weekly"[As] a companion to the popular nautical novels of C. S. Forester and Patrick O'Brian--it succeeds brilliantly."--Daily Telegraph (London)"The descriptions of the great sea commanders and their battles display all the craft of the gifted writer....Read Broadships for enjoyment as a well-informed, action-packed naval narrative."--The Christ Church Press.deIn the late 18th century, it was widely thought that to be a sailor was little better than to be a slave. "No man will be a sailor," wrote Samuel Johnson, "who has contrivance enough to get himself into jail. A man in jail has more room, better food, and commonly better company." If that were true, historian Nathan Miller suggests, then the record of sailing in the age of tall ships would likely be distinguished by few heroes and fewer grand narratives. He counters that in the regular navies of England, the fledgling United States, and most other nations, brutal captains and thuggish crewmen were rare, and professionalism was the order of the day. It was their high standard of service that made those naval forces such powerful, even indispensable arms of the land-based military. Miller's great hero throughout this fine history is Horatio Nelson, whose valor was exemplary throughout countless battles around the world. But he writes with equal admiration of lesser-known figures, such as Lambert Wickes, Pierre de Villeneuve, Juan de Cordova, and "Foul Weather Jack" Byron, who served their nations and fellow sailors well, and often heroically. Broadships is an entertaining, illuminating history sure to please fans of Patrick O'Brian and C. S. Forester. --Gregory McNameePressestimmenPraise for Nathan Miller's Theodore Roosevelt: A Life: "An excellent portrayal."