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Voyage of the Liberdade

Joshua Slocum

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Joshua Slocum : Voyage of the Liberdade before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Voyage of the Liberdade:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I thoroughly enjoyed this bookBy W. PettyjohnI thoroughly enjoyed this book. Slocum writes an engaging tale of a commercial voyage to Brazil that he made, as captain,with his wife and two children. You know from the beginning that the story does not end too badly because the main character (Slocum) lives to tell it. But, there are storms and shipwrecks, fevers and quarantines, mutinous crews and pettish port authorities, not too mention, a revolution Thorough it all, Slocum makes things go right. There are wonderful vignettes involving people they met along the way as well as pleasant descriptions of the ports at which they stopped. In the end,

their young son hops from their "canoe," the *Liberdade*, to the pier in the Potomac Basin in Washington DC--the end of their voyage.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. An excellent read!By Kindle ownerThis book shows how tough people were in the 1800's and what length they would go to provide for themselves and their families by doing things that others thought impossible. An excellent read!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. InsightfulBy Customer k harkerThoughtful reading for someone who is interested in sailing for the first time and gives some forethought to what could happen on the open sea

This is a reprint of the original book.

About the AuthorBorn in Nova Scotia, Canada, Joshua Slocum was the first man to sail single-handedly around the world. An international bestseller, *Sailing Alone Around the World* was a critical success upon its publication in 1900. Slocum enjoyed widespread fame in the English-speaking world, including an invitation to speak at a dinner in honor of Mark Twain, until his disappearance while aboard his boat the *Spray* in 1909. At the time, it was believed his boat had been run down by a steamer or struck by a whale, however it was later determined that the *Spray* could also have easily capsized. Despite a lifetime at sea, Slocum never learned to swim. He was declared legally dead in 1924.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Joshua Slocum is widely known for his *Sailing Around the World Alone*, the story of his solo circumnavigation. The *Voyage of the Liberdade*, his first book, is equally compelling. In it he recounts his journey to Brazil and back - he sailed down on the *Aquidneck*, his own ship, and returned on the *Liberdade*, which he built there. What happened? Slocum describes sailing from port to port in Brazil, trying to take in and deliver enough cargo on the *Aquidneck* to make her voyage profitable. Through a series of mishaps he is saddled with a crew which turns out to be composed of brigands, not sailors: "My pirates thought their opportunity had surely come to capture the *Aquidneck*, and this they undertook to do. The ringleader of the gang was a burly scoundrel, whose boast was that he had "licked both the mate and second mate of the last vessel he had sailed in, and had "busted the captain in the jaw"...Near midnight, my wife, who had heard the first footstep on deck, quietly wakened me, saying, "We must get up, and look out for ourselves! Something is going wrong on deck; the boat tackle has been let go with a great deal of noise..." My first impulse was to step on deck in the usual way, but the earnest entreaties of my wife awoke me, like, to a danger that should be investigated with caution. Arming myself therefore, with a stout carbine repeater, and eight ball cartridges in the magazine, I stepped on deck abaft instead of forward, where evidently I had been expected..." Slocum, who landed in jail for shooting a one of the mutineers, eventually lost the *Aquidneck* on the reefs. Not wanting to remain a castaway in Brazil, he and his family build the *Liberdade*, the ship that would bring them home: "Her dimensions being - 35 feet in length over all, 7-1/2 feet breadth of beam, and 3 feet depth of hold, who shall say that she was not large enough? Her model I got from my recollections of Cape Ann dories and from a photo of a very elegant Japanese sampan which I had before me on the spot, so, as it might be expected, when finished, she resembled both types of vessel in some degree. Her rig was the Chinese sampan style, which is, I consider, the most convenient boat rig in the whole world. This was the boat, or canoe I prefer to call it, in which we purposed to sail for North America and home. Each one had been busy during the construction and past misfortunes had all been forgotten. Madam had made the sails - and very good sails they were, too!" Join the self-reliant and intrepid Slocum on his voyage and gain a glimpse into the romantic era that vanished when steam took over. And perhaps his book will inspire you to follow in his footsteps in your own *Liberdade*!