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Alan Villiers

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#4019756 in Books 1971-11Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 #File
Name: 0340129999368 pages | File size: 26.Mb

Alan Villiers : War with Cape Horn before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised War with Cape Horn:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Tribute to the Great WindjammersBy CW HawesA fabulous history of the end of the windjammer era. The late Mr Villiers has done his research and this work is a tribute to those daring men who braved the wrath of Cape Horn. I read this years ago and the book stayed with me so much that I had to buy it and read it again. Anyone who loves the old sailing ships should have this book.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy John D. CornwellFine read.

The War With Cape Horn brings the Cape Horn story into the middle of the twentieth century. For a hundred years sailing ships had been making the serious voyage, with profit to the owners but at great cost in vessels and in men. The big steel barks carried thousands of tons and their sail-spread was enormous; their crews, however, were small and very young. Americans, British, German, French, Scandinavian ships--they risked the Horn each year by the hundreds, and Allan Villiers vividly records their achievements and disasters. He has gone to sources heretofore unused--at Lloyd's and at the British National Maritime Museum. But his most valuable source has been the ship-masters whom he has known; and he writes, of course, out of his own long experience in deep-water sail, from able seaman to captain.