



The Grey Widow Maker

Jiyuan Zhang



The Grey Widow Maker:

The Grey Widow-Maker Bernard Edwards,1995-06-01

Beware the Grey Widow-maker Bernard Edwards,2004

This book follows the changing pattern of man's fortunes at sea from the golden age of sail through the proud years when steam reigned supreme to the present day when the flag of convenience rules the waves. It tells of triumphs and disasters, some recent, some long forgotten, and illustrates how contrary to all expectations the fine art of seamanship has withered and died with the advent of advanced technology.

The Grey Widow-maker Bernard Edwards,John Hendry,1991

Survivors

of Enemy Action Bernard Edwards,2023-06-30 The war years 1939-1945 were the most perilous in the long history of the British Merchant Navy. The figures speak for themselves. With 2,535 ships sunk and 36,749 merchant seamen lost, the proportional casualty rate was higher than any branch of the Armed Forces except for Bomber Command. The danger to the lightly armed merchant ships came from enemy air attacks, surface warships, raiders, and of course submarines. Prisoners were seldom taken, so the crews of stricken vessels had to fend for themselves. Those who survived enemy action faced death by drowning, exposure, and lack of food and water. Compiled mainly from experiences related direct to the author, this inspiring book draws on first-hand accounts of the lucky few who survived. With extraordinary honesty and modesty, their stories describe the events leading up to the enemy attack, the actions, and the aftermath. Readers will be struck by the courage and fortitude of these men who often suffered extreme hardship and privation. Too many died before reaching land or being rescued. These men are without doubt the unsung heroes of the Second World War, and this fine book is an overdue recognition of their sacrifices and courage.

The Decoys Bernard Edwards,2012-10-30

In November 1942, Britain and America launched Operation TORCH, the ambitious invasion of French North Africa. To convey 70,000 troops and their equipment required 600 merchant ships crossing the U-boat-infested North Atlantic. The need for their protection meant withdrawing escorts from the routine convoys. Amongst those left without adequate defence were RB 1 and SC 107, both eastbound from America, and SL 125 northbound from Freetown. All three were at sea at the same time as the TORCH convoys.

U-Boats Beyond Biscay Bernard Edwards,2017-05-31 On the outbreak of war in 1939, Admiral Donitz's U-boat flotillas consisted of some thirty U-boats, fully operational, with only six to eight at sea at any one time. Their activities were restricted mainly to the North Sea and British coastal waters. When France fell in the summer of 1940, the ports in the Bay of Biscay gave direct access to the Atlantic, and the ability to extend their reach even to the Royal Navy was unable to escort convoys much beyond the Western Approaches. In a short time, the Allies were losing 500,000 tons of shipping a month. Every month, Donitz now looked over the far horizons: America's Eastern Seaboard, the coasts of Africa, and the Mediterranean, where Allied merchantmen habitually sailed alone and unprotected. There was a rich harvest to be gathered in by the long-range U-boats, the silent hunter-killers, mostly operating alone. This book tells their story.

The Salt Roads John

Goodlad,2022-09-01 This is the extraordinary story of how salt fish from Shetland became one of the staple foods of Europe.

powered an economic boom and inspired artists writers and musicians It ranges from the wild waters of the North Atlantic the ice filled fjords of Greenland and the remote islands of Faroe to the dining tables of London s middle classes the bacalao restaurants of Spain and the Jewish shtetls of Eastern Europe As well as following the historical thread and exploring how very different cultures were drawn together by the salt fish trade John Goodlad meets those whose lives revolve around the industry in the twenty first century and addresses today s pressing themes of sustainability climate change and food choices

The Wolf Packs Gather Bernard Edwards,2012-07-19 The capture by the German surface raider Atlantis of the British steamer City of Baghdads secret code books in July 1940 enabled the Nazis to de cypher Admiralty convoy plans with deadly effect This book describes the resulting appalling Allied losses suffered by four convoys during the Autumn of 1940 Admiral Donetz aware of the movements of the Allied convoys marshaled as many of his U boats as possible The first convoy SC2 consisting of 53 merchant men was attacked in early September by four U boats Due to poor weather only five ships were lost Shortly after HX72 with 41 ships sailing from Nova Scotia lost eleven ships to five Type VIIC U boats Top Aces Otto Kretschmer and Joachim Schepke who penetrated inside the columns accounted for nine No less than nine U boats attacked SC7 in October 1940 Of 35 merchant men a staggering 20 were lost HX79 also fared terribly despite being a fast convoy with ten escorts losing twelve ships In total forty eight merchant men were sunk and seven more damaged without any U boat losses at all The Wolf Packs Gather is an authoritative account of the darkest hours of the War in the Atlantic It describes not only the German tactics but the inadequacies of what few escorts there were and the heartbreaking loss of defenseless life

Running the Gauntlet Bernard Edwards,2022-04-21 The British Merchant Navy dominated the world trade routes in the years leading up to the Second World War The star players of the fleet were the cargo liners faster and larger than the tramps and offering limited passenger accommodation On the outbreak of war these cargo liners became crucial to the nation s survival using their speed and expertise to evade Nazi warships raiders and U boats Initially operating alone but increasingly relying on Royal Navy protected convoys these key elements of the Merchant Navy plied the oceans and seas despite mounting losses throughout the war years This superbly researched book describes numerous dramatic incidents Some ended in disaster such as the New Zealand Shipping Company s Turakina which was sunk after a running battle with the German raider Orion Others were triumphs for example Operation Substance when six fast cargo liners succeeded against all the odds in reaching besieged Malta with vital supplies The common denominations in all these historic voyages were the courage and skilled seamanship of the Merchant Navy crews As Running The Gauntlet vividly illustrates their contribution to victory too long overlooked cannot be overstated

Temeraire (The Temeraire Series, Book 1) Naomi Novik,2009-02-20 Naomi Novik s stunning series of novels follow the global adventures of Captain William Laurence and his fighting dragon Temeraire as they are thrown together to fight for Britain during the turbulent time of the Napoleonic Wars

From Hunter to Hunted Bernard Edwards,2020-03-30 In the early stages of the Second World War Donitz s U boats

generally adhered to Prize Rules surfacing before attacking and making every effort to preserve the lives of their victims crews But with the arming of merchantmen and greater risk of damage or worse they increasingly attacked without warning So successful was the U boat campaign that Churchill saw it as the gravest threat the Nation faced The low point was the March 1943 attack on convoys SC122 and HX229 when 44 U boats sank 22 loaded ships The pendulum miraculously swung with improved tactics and technology In May 1943 out of a force of over 50 U boats that challenged ONS5 eight were sunk and 18 were damaged some seriously Such losses were unsustainable and with allied yards turning out ships at ever increasing rates Donitz withdrew his wolf packs from the North Atlantic Expert naval author and historian Bernard Edwards traces the course of the battle of the Atlantic through a series of thrilling engagement case studies

Rudyard Kipling
 Rudyard Kipling,2000 An illustrated collection of twenty eight notable poems by Rudyard Kipling with commentary and definitions of unfamiliar words Includes an introduction about the poet s life and work *The Ancestor's Tale* Richard Dawkins,Yan Wong,2016-09-06 The renowned biologist and thinker Richard Dawkins presents his most expansive work in this revised edition that offers a comprehensive look at evolution Loosely based on the form of Chaucer s Canterbury Tales Dawkins s tale takes us modern humans back through four billion years of life on our planet As the pilgrimage progresses we join with other organisms at the forty rendezvous points where we find a common ancestor The band of pilgrims swells into a vast crowd as we join first with other primates then with other mammals and so on back to the first primordial organism Dawkins s brilliant inventive approach allows us to view the connections between ourselves and all other life in a bracingly novel way It also lets him shed bright new light on the most compelling aspects of evolutionary history and theory sexual selection speciation convergent evolution extinction genetics plate tectonics geographical dispersal and more The Ancestor s Tale is at once a far reaching survey of the latest best thinking on biology and a fascinating history of life on Earth Here Dawkins shows us how remarkable we are how astonishing our history and how intimate our relationship with the rest of the living world

Moon of Other Days Rudyard Kipling,Mary Margaret Kaye,1989 **Helping God to make the flowers grow, with other original poems, hymns, songs, dialogues, recitations, etc** Joseph Cooper,1889 **Poems to Read Aloud** Edward Hodnett,1957 *The Collected Works of Rudyard Kipling: Puck of Pook's Hill. Rewards and fairies* Rudyard Kipling,1970 *The Collected Works of Rudyard Kipling: Songs from books and Later songs from books* Rudyard Kipling,1970 **Poems, 1886-1929** Rudyard Kipling,1929 *Selected Poems* Rudyard Kipling,2004 Shows Kipling to be thoughtful compassionate witty and a dextrous manipulator of dramatic verse His poems are some of the best known and most widely quoted in the English language and have continued to give enjoyment long after the sun finally set on his beloved British Empire

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The Grey Widow Maker Introduction

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