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# Baggywrinkles: A Lubber's Guide To Life At Sea



## Synopsis

Welcome to the world of Baggywrinkles – a rollicking, educational survey of maritime lore, built around cartoonist Lucy Bellwood's time aboard tall ships. From the scourge of scurvy to the exhilaration of climbing the rigging for the first time, Lucy's comics bring the reader into a world of high seas history and informative adventure with "a sheer and unremitting sense of joy (Andy Oliver, Broken Frontier)."

## Book Information

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Having crewed tall ships myself (and already being a fan of Bellwood's work), I got what I expected from this delightful volume and more! Her vivid illustrations, singular humor, and thorough research ensured that from the moment I opened it, I did not once set it down until I had read it entirely. She captured perfectly the enthralling love story that can happen between an inexperienced young person and the sea, and she imparted on me new knowledge of both scientific and historic natures that added context and richness to my previous understanding of maritime lore and tradition. Sailors or nautical aficionados from all walks of life and age groups are sure to enjoy this book and feel compelled to share it with others who love art, education, and the sea.

Great book highlighting Lucy's time out at sea, true nautical tales, as well as some great facts about shipping.

Fun and informative!

Lucy Bellwood loves tall ships, and she wants to share that passion with us. This is one of my favorite kinds of comics: it shows me what it would be like to do something I'm never going to do. *Baggywrinkles* is an anthology, a collection of anecdotes about crewing on a sailing ship. Bellwood begins with the tale of how, in high school, she first went to work on an historical replica ship. Her love and anxiety and excitement come through beautifully, and her illustrations of life at sea are evocative and seductive. The bits of information she shares in the short pieces build an idea of a life at sea through mosaic. She explains what a baggywrinkle is, for example, and provides a history of nautical tattoos. She introduces basic equipment and terminology, all in a fashion that puts the reader there with a naive-but-in-love ship's apprentice. One-page bits of trivia punctuate the longer chapters, and well-illustrated knots and bits of equipment serve as story-separating designs. I appreciated finding out why pirates didn't really make people walk the plank and what scurvy was and how they found out how to prevent it. It's educational and hilarious, with a weird appearance by a capybara that actually fits in. There's also a historical piece about an early visit to Japan, at a time when trade with outsiders was forbidden. (Review originally posted at [ComicsWorthReading.com](http://ComicsWorthReading.com).)

Bellwood displayed a great narrative voice from the get-go. This book collects five years of nonfiction comics about boats and related topics and they just get better with each successive story. It doesn't matter if you care about boats or not -- you'll be fascinated and entertained. I look forward to what comes next.

I love the art style, learned about boats, and the cause of scurvy. I thought "scurvy" was just an insult for pirates! It's not a complete guide to tall ships, but a nice introduction into maritime history and life at sea. Eager for more.

If you love tall boats, you will love this. Great history, terminology, and a fantastic art style. Highly recommended. Lucy Bellwood's work always puts a smile on my face.

I've read this book a few times over, now. The wit and the illustrations are rad!

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