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Salt Of A Sailor: The True Origins Of A Durable, But Not-so-dainty Sailor



Synopsis

"If you're thinking about buying your first sailboat and making it your own, you need to read this refreshingly honest tale."-- Ed Robinson, author of Poop, Booze & Bikinis
Had I ever sailed? No. Did I think that mattered? No. I felt I had whatever grit and guile I needed to handle this silly sailing stuff. I parachuted with a sheet, drove a car that started with a screwdriver, swished with hydrogen peroxide. I rode horses, climbed rocks, leapt off cliffs. I spent summers in the sleeper of a big rig. I ate Malt-o-Meal. Surely these were excellent traits of a sailor. Surely I was salty enough. I fancied I was. Either way, we were going to find out. The time to go was now. All we needed was a boat. Follow all of Annie's adventures at www.havewindwilltravel.com.

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Customer Reviews

This is a true story of buying a yacht and a shakedown sail and delivery firstly in a storm (although 25 knots of wind and 6 foot seas are not unusual and is normal sailing conditions in Western Australia) in the Gulf of Mexico. I assume Annie has or will write further books of her adventures but

please use words at least once that say SAFETY HARNESS. I was horrified with the lack of use of this basic of all sailing safety measures.

Best story about the delivery home after purchase ever told. The author has a great way with words so some of the smallest details are told with remarkable clarity. Maybe it would be fun to sail on down from the New England area and try out the Gulf of Freaking Mexico. Some reviewers have noted the side stories of her early life as being distracting. Cruising is about resilience. Annie is resilient and she has the stories to prove it. The "great" part of the book is the wonder she experiences as a sailor out on a cruise. Nothing had prepared her for that. Pretty remarkable.

I had expected more about what it is like to be a woman in a predominantly man's world out on the wild blue ocean. What I read was about a woman trying to bluff her way through some potentially dangerous circumstances she was in no way ready to deal with. Her references back to her life as a child and how certain instances from back then influenced what she was doing at the moment, ran a bit long and by the end of the book ran entirely too long. I will read the next book in her series in the hope of finding what I was looking for in the first book, now that she has her sea boots on the right feet.

Have you ever picked up a book and read a few pages and then realize that you are halfway through the first chapter...and you can't put it down? That's exactly what happened to me. The prologue just draws you in and the next thing you know, you are in the front seat of an old pickup truck, picking pieces of seat cushion foam and stuffing them in your pockets with your sweaty hands. I know what you are thinking: "what the heck does this have to do with sailing?" You're curious now, aren't you? Trust me, it has everything to do with the vivid journey that Annie takes you through in this book, and sailing is just one facet in this gem! I truly enjoyed reading this rollercoaster ride and Annie does a great job of relating what is happening in layman's terms so that you find yourself saying: "that's what I was thinking!" Her razor sharp wit and tongue-in-cheek humor keep things lively and she tells stories like that grizzled old guy at the campground who always seems to have an audience when it gets dark and the fire starts crackling. You can't wait to hear the next story! This really is a great read even if you know nothing about sailing, and the maxi pad and Home Depot stories alone are worth buying this book for. (okay, admit it, now you are REALLY curious!) There is far more to this book, and the author, than meets the eye. You will love it!

A delightful read. Enjoyed it. Annie's writing style was light but serious when the need required it. The many wonderful photos throughout the book added a lot. I enjoyed her flashbacks to her formative years. Annie was clearly influenced by her close relationship with her father who, in turn, molded her into a tomboy of sorts. That served her well. Sailing a boat across the Gulf in a storm was the high point of the story. Even in the modern era this is a challenge. It's like flying an airplane, once you're out there or up there only your skills can bring you safely in. A good read.

This was a refreshingly light-hearted look at taking the plunge into sailing. Annie intersperses her tales of learning to sail and cruise with reflections and childhood memories, which keep it fun and never boring. I especially like her upbeat "can do" attitude. To quote Annie from the last chapter, "The tougher the boat chore, the more sense of accomplishment and enjoyment you'll get out of it. Simply put, the more work, the more pleasure. But, what's play without work, am I right? Can one really even exist without the other? If you've never worked a day in your life, how can you ever possibly appreciate a day of play?"

An entertaining non-fiction book about taking the plunge into the sailing and cruising lifestyle. Annie takes us through the process of finding and purchasing a sailboat, then treats us to her amusing family stories and the challenges of learning a whole arsenal of new skills. The chronicle of the journey back home to Pensacola is filled with helpful tips and anecdotes. Through her funny and sometimes self-deprecating tales, she illuminates the real truth that sailing is full of highs and lows. She learns that the reward of contentment is often earned through sometimes exhaustive trial and error. This should be required reading before buying your first cruising sailboat.

I could not put this book down! Very entertaining and authentic. I would recommend to anyone who wants to explore the good and bad about sailing and how sailing is a lot like life. It is hard work, with ups and downs and lots of memories! My husband and I absolutely loved this book. The author has inspired me to learn more about sailing and I plan to do just that! Anyone who is even thinking about buying a sailboat should read Salt of a Sailor FIRST!

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