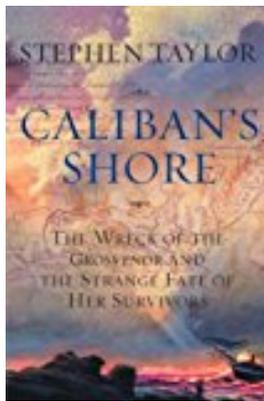


[PDF] Caliban's Shore: The Wreck Of The Grosvenor And The Strange Fate Of Her Survivors

Stephen Taylor - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: Caliban's Shore: The Wreck of
Author: Stephen Taylor
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Description:

From Publishers Weekly The *Grosvenor's* passengers and crew feared shipwreck and death, but "shipwreck and survival was not a possibility that anyone had much considered." When the England-bound mercantile ship ran aground in heavy seas off Africa on August 4, 1782, death would have

been easier for the 125 who made it ashore. Drawing primarily on two contemporary reports, British historian Taylor reassembles the *Grosvenor's* story with precision and vision, making each passenger a character and each incident a fate twist. Merchants and children, Anglicans and Muslims, officers and gentlewomen were stranded without weapons or food on shores inhabited by the Pondo tribe in present-day South Africa. Fearful that the peaceful natives would turn hostile, the survivors struck out along the coast for known European settlements. But the bad decision-making that had resulted in shipwreck produced more disaster, and, by the end, only 13 survivors of the wreck are accounted for. Over the years, as news of the fate of the *Grosvenor* and its passengers drifted back to Britain, the ship and its fate became legendary, even Dickens contributing. The book may not resonate for Americans as much as for more direct descendants of the British Empire, but Taylor has brought the ship and its survivors to modern eyes with this commendable work. Photos.

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From In the summer of 1782, an East India Company ship, the 741-ton *Grosvenor*, ran aground and sank off the southeast coast of Africa, the shore about 100 yards away; 91 crewmen and 34 British passengers survived. Taylor describes in detail what he was able to learn of the survivors' lives and recounts the vessel's structure and the calamitous weather that led to the disaster. "For the castaways, the natural world of Africa might have been another planet," Taylor writes, describing its plants and animals, rivers and insects. Some of the passengers and crew eventually returned home, but others stayed. The author visited the coast three times in the course of writing this book, and his research included nearly 80 sources. This incredible, true story reads like the wildest fiction. *George Cohen*

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