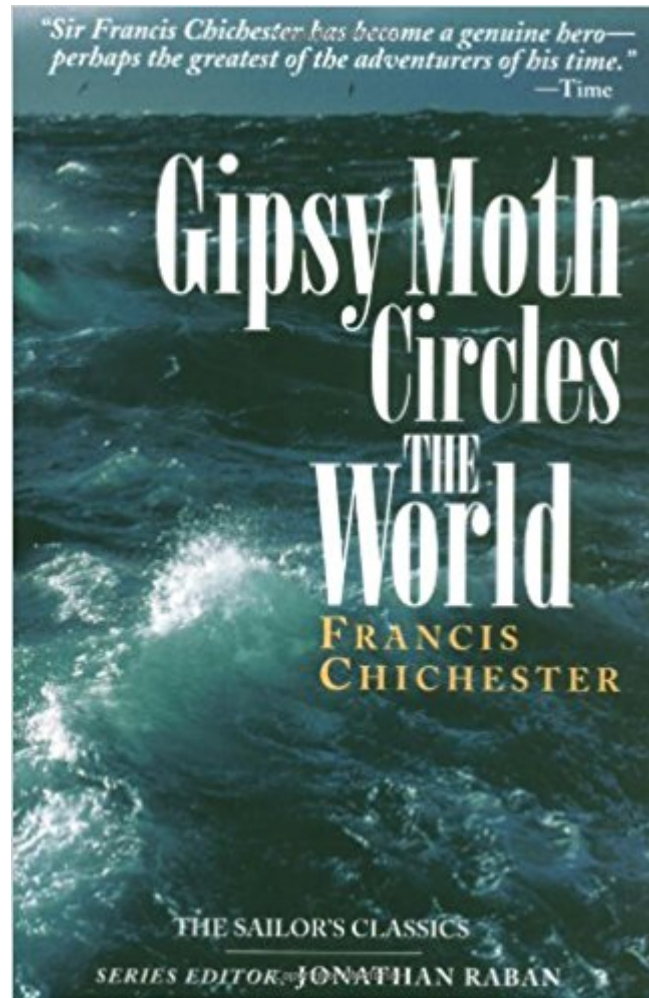




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Gipsy Moth Circles The World



Synopsis

The Sailor's Classics library introduces a new generation of readers to the best books ever written about small boats under sail. When 65-year-old Francis Chichester set sail on his solitary eastward journey around the world in 1966, many believed he wouldn't return alive. But when the old man returned nine months later, he had made history's fastest circumnavigation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...a report by a great adventurer, who also happens to be a writer, of one of man's greatest of lonely enterprises." -- Harper's "...reminds us how men can transcend their apparent physical limitations when they are doing something that they very much want to do." -- Economist "A moving story of conquest by the unquenchable human spirit, a determined old man's gesture of defiance at the modern world..." -- Alan Villiers, Saturday Review "Chichester.. reawaken[s] the world to man's capacity to seek and to endure. He has served men by living their dreams..." -- Time --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

7 1.5-hour cassettes --This text refers to the Audio Cassette edition.

An exciting read for a sailor, and just as I'd hoped - no endless excursions ashore or partying in quiet anchorages while neighboring boats ride their hooks. Here we have the endless sail changes,

(before roller furling) plunging barometer, everything wet & cold, ongoing sea-sickness - just as a big ocean passage usually is. The discomfort is palpable, although Sir Francis almost always understates the misery and fear, and keeps a stiff upper lip. The nomenclature might be a little confusing for non-sailors, as this book is about SAILING, and sailboats. My wife likes to read about the socializing that sailors do, and loves visiting foreign shores. She would dislike this book.

One of the finest accounts I've ever read of personal triumph and determination. At an age in his life when many people are picking out their "rocking chairs", Sir Chichester faced his fears and overcame them, to fulfill his dream of circumnavigating the globe single handed in a small sail boat, that many thought would never make it. He definitely exuded "true grit". The support of his wife, family, and friends, and their understanding, help make this dream become a reality, and a shining example for all of us. A truly awe-inspiring book for anyone who loves the oceans, sailing, or examples of true personal courage and fortitude.

The story is amazing. It is written quite objectively which I've seen described by other reviewers as being "understated". Having some background and appreciation of sailing, Sir Francis accomplished a goal far more difficult it seems that those who climb Mt. Everest. He writes in a very calm tone but in several instances does admit he was frightened due to conditions. At those points in time the average person would likely have been completely overwhelmed by fear and worry. Despite this Sir Francis continued on and fulfilled his goal. What a story and a journey to be proud to present!

After watching "Deep Water", I became very interested in Chichester, Crowhurst, and Moitessier. As one who typically reads fiction (i.e. Clive Cussler, etc.), Chichester's account of his circumnavigation was evocative and revealing. It's hard to imagine nine months of solitude, danger, difficulties, and the perpetual needs of the boat. Apparently, he kept a very detailed journal because you feel as if you were sailing with him day by day. Who knew endless miles of open ocean could offer such variety and excitement? Chichester is very candid, descriptive, personable, and endearing. However, my next book to read is "The Long Way". No breaks in Sydney for that guy!

Very detailed account of this challenging voyage around the world via the Southern Oceans and the Great Capes! Well written by the man who met every challenge nature and the elements could throw at him and his less than ideal vessel for the voyage. A must have for any serious sailors library!

My father had this book, laying around, when I grew up, which is surprising, since the year was 1970. I've been a fan of free transportation (or sailing) since then. A boat (or ship) moving along, without consuming energy has always intrigued me. Yes, I've since learned how to sail, and am still in love with the process. Now, that I'm getting close to Sir Francis' age, it's time to re-visit this tome.

recommended by a great friend

If you ever had a bad boat trip, Chichester will convince you it was not really so bad. His solo circumnavigation of the globe was an astounding feat of fortitude in the face of human and natural obstacles.

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