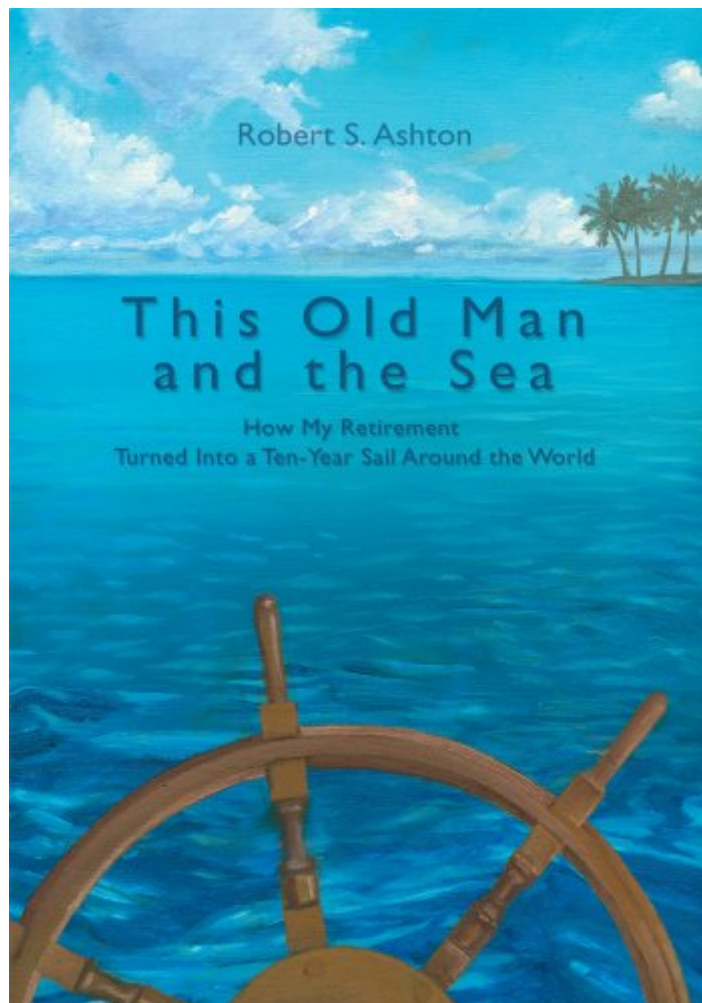




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This Old Man And The Sea: How My Retirement Turned Into A Ten-Year Sail Around The World



Synopsis

The sun was setting and the only place to anchor was at the entrance to a small stream. With anchor down, we jumped into a dinghy to explore the dense jungle the stream penetrated. After a hundred yards or so, we stopped the outboard. Now the fauna slowly recovered from our racket and jungle noises began: bugs, birds, and mystery sounds. We saw colorful parrots and then-by the hundreds-the brilliant scarlet ibis. Then monkeys! Totally quiet, they watched us intently, warily, irritated by our encroachment into their world.

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Customer Reviews

An incredibly impersonal account of a circumnavigation. Just a list of facts ie: We went here, did that, then went there did that. I talked to this or that person... No personality, no emotions. A totally impersonal list of information. Reminds me of when I was in the military and was required to keep an official log of happenings while on watch. Totally impersonal - "Just the facts please".He started traveling with a female companion and never mentioned much of anything about her and nothing of

their friendship other than she liked something or she could cook. After a year and a half, she went home. He just stated it like it was a non-important incident along the lines of "I saw another wave today". This book is useless if you are looking for any technical information, his costs, or any real advice on sailing. It is not there. What a wasted opportunity! A trip around the world, a million interesting things he must have seen and done. The laughs, fears, people he met... All the interesting little details of that life that could have made this an interesting book are gone forever and the world will never know of them. All because of poor writing. Don't waste your money.

Odd things. I did not like the personal (as distinct from the writing) style of this author. I am certain that he couldn't give a damn what I think and good on him for exactly that. What I will say is that I identify with him very strongly as a sailor and found the book useful. There was the odd practical gem, but the best thing for me was the book's insistence on telling it like it is, from ONE person's perspective and damn the torquedos. I am not the kind of cruising 'pussy' this guy pays out on and I do understand his avoidance of the big mouths. It's just that he has such a big mouth himself. The reader would not mistake him for anything other than American. But I did enjoy the book.

A great read! Mr Ashton shares his journey very well with insights into sailing, relationships with crew members and people he meets, and the places he traveled.

I enjoyed the first 3/4 of This Old Man and the Sea. It was written in a way that took me to those exotic isles the author visited. Then, out of the blue, he starts publishing the emails he sent to folks back in the States. It was difficult to wrap my mind around. There were times I wondered where exactly he was. Sometimes he recaps an experience via emails back home. Sometimes he doesn't. All in all I would recommend this book to those considering circumnavigation or armchair sailors.

I am sure that many readers will associate their dreams with Robert Ashton. With modern writers a little limited in the number of pages they can write for their publishers this book finds a reasonable balance between the sailing/voyage aspects and the adventures on land. His 'email catch ups' are a clever way of filling in the gaps. A fun read for every aspiring retiree who wants one last adventure.

This book was not very detailed regarding the author's sailing exploits. Mainly it was the author's list of locations he visited with minor details of points of interest and even less on the aspects of his journey on the open ocean. Not a very entertaining read considering the amount of locations visited

and length of this journey.

some parts seemed to be brushed over, i realise robert had 10 years to compress into one book, but there were parts i was interested in knowing about, that seemed to be over in a paragraph. good book, well done robert

A good heartfelt story by a non-writer. Very endearing, life embracing stories, interspersed by slightly booring writing. If you want to cruise the world, you could learn something from mr Ashton.

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