

The Nutmeg of Consolation (Aubrey & Maturin)

By Patrick O'Brian



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In command now of a new ship, the *Nutmeg*, Aubrey pursues his interrupted mission. The dreadful penal colony in New South Wales, harrowingly described, is the backdrop to a diplomatic crisis provoked by Maturin's Irish temper, and to a near-fatal encounter with the wildlife of the Australian outback.



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The Nutmeg of Consolation (Aubrey & Maturin) By Patrick O'Brian Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Shipwrecked! When Captain Aubrey and his crew go aground on a remote island, they labor to construct a seaworthy schooner from the wreckage (taking breaks, of course, to play cricket.) Their subsequent adventures lead them to the dreaded penal colony at Botany Bay, and then, as always, back to sea.

From Publishers Weekly

Readers will welcome the reappearance here of elegant Stephen Maturin, one hero of O'Brian's excellent 19th-century seafarer series. Maturin is a ship's doctor, naturalist, spy, musician, ex-opium eater and, we're reminded here, terrific swordsman. His "brother" is Capt. Jack Aubrey, RN, MP, popular hero for his success against Napoleon, less introspective but as subtly drawn as Maturin and as avid a musician. Last seen in The Thirteen-Gun Salute the two were shipwrecked on a barren isle in the South China Sea. After a bitter fight with Dyaks and Malays they reach Batavia, where Governor Raffles gives Aubrey the eponymic Dutch sloop ("a tight, sweet, newly-coppered, broad-buttocked litle ship, a solace to any man's heart") to continue his circumnavigation of the globe. As usual the chief joys are in the details of the food, drink and clothes of the era, with those of the rain forests, kangaroos and platypuses added here. On the other hand, early Sydney's squalor is matched by its brutality.

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From Library Journal

The latest of O'Brian's many novels of the sea, this is an intriguing story about an early 19th-century British ship as it voyages through the South China Sea. On their way back from concluding a treaty with a local potentate, Captain Jack Aubrey and his crew go through a series of adventures, including shipwreck and a battle with a French frigate. They end up amidst the cruelty of Botany Bay, the penal colony in New South Wales. The crew are, on the whole, a dignified bunch, and some of the characters are very well drawn, including Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, the ship's Irish doctor and naturalist. Some of the best parts of the book are the descriptions of the flora and fauna of the area, and O'Brian certainly knows his stuff about 19th-century seamanship (although landlubber readers may find themselves confused by some of the technical terminology). Recommended for public libraries.

- Bryan Aubrey, Fairfield, Ia.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Judy Washburn:

Exactly why? Because this The Nutmeg of Consolation (Aubrey & Maturin) is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

Gail Delamora:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love The Nutmeg of Consolation (Aubrey & Maturin), it is possible to enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Mary Patterson:

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Robert Hill:

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