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Magellan: And The First Voyage Around The World



Synopsis

Determined to find a new and better route to Asia and the distant and profitable Spice Islands, Ferdinand Magellan set sail from Spain in 1519 on what would become the history-making first circumnavigation of the world. Magellan himself did not complete the journey—he was killed by a poison arrow while on the Pacific island of Mactan—but the expedition he mounted forever changed the course of human exploration. Details of the journey, including Magellan's tools of navigation, the political battles for control over the valuable islands of the Pacific, and Magellan's final moments in battle, are all vividly portrayed

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This biography of Ferdinand Magellan, who in 1519 commanded the "most remarkable and perilous [voyage] in seafaring history," rarely captures the drama of its subject. Not only does the pageantry of the age of discovery elude the text, but the author frequently fails to explain and explore historical and cultural contexts. For example, the narrative offers simplistic commentary on the violent raping and pillaging of the Muslim city Kilwa during Magellan's first sea journey: "Such savagery is difficult to understand, but Christians saw no wrong in massacring people in those far-off regions."

Discussions of technological issues, such as the inability to calculate longitude, do not convey the danger and hardship associated with them. Levinson (*Christopher Columbus: Voyager to the Unknown*) picks up some speed when she turns to Magellan's great journey (originally intended to find a westward route to the Spice Islands, not to circumnavigate the globe). She documents such developments as Magellan's need to renounce Portuguese citizenship to seek royal patronage in

Spain, and the court intrigue that planted mutinous spies as captains of Magellan's accompanying vessels. On the whole, however, the treatment is only serviceable, unlikely to inspire awe or fire the imagination. Ages 9-14. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Gr 5 Up-This unbiased and insightful biography of the famous Portuguese explorer captures not only the times in which he lived, but also reveals his humanity, his perseverance, and his final triumphs. Lesser-known facts are illuminated and unfamiliar vocabulary is defined within the absorbing narrative. Excellent-quality drawings and reproductions are well dispersed to keep young people engaged and to provide background information; the maps are useful and interesting. A treasure for reports and for general readers. Kim Donius, Alfred-Almond Central School, Almond, NY Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

my neighbor love it, it is recommend. great and good experience. An absolutely great product! I was able to thin cut a baguette that usually I struggle with. Perfectly smooth cutting! OK, there is do not have any problem.

Nancy Smiler Levinson's *Magellan And The First Voyage Around The World* provides a lively account of his 1519 journey with his fleet of five ships and almost three hundred men. Storms, disease, and attacks by natives marred his voyage. This reads like fiction but is a nonfiction account kids will remember.

Well the Magellan was the first man that we have registry that complete a circumnavigation. The book have good information but I was expecting more from "this" historic man. The book have a very good start but just before the middle the time goes fast and the details are going to be worst. Maybe if the author put a little more details it could be more interesting and exciting.

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