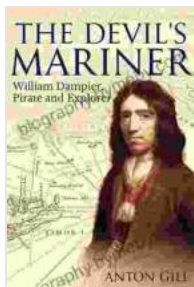


Life of William Dampier: Pirate and Explorer, 1651-1715

William Dampier was a man of many talents. He was a pirate, an explorer, a naturalist, and a writer. He was also a master mariner, skilled in the art of navigation. Dampier's life was full of adventure, and his experiences shaped him into one of the most fascinating figures of the Age of Exploration.

Early Life

William Dampier was born in Somerset, England, in 1651. His father was a farmer, and Dampier spent his early years working on the family farm. However, he yearned for something more than a life of farming. At the age of 16, he ran away to sea.



The Devil's Mariner: A Life of William Dampier, Pirate and Explorer, 1651-1715 by Anton Gill

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 818 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 383 pages
Lending : Enabled

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Dampier's first voyage was to Jamaica. He worked as a sailor on a merchant ship, and he quickly learned the ropes of seafaring. After a few years, he returned to England and served in the Royal Navy. However, he found the Navy to be too confining, and he soon left to pursue a life of piracy.

Pirate Days

Dampier's pirate career began in the late 1680s. He sailed with some of the most notorious pirates of the era, including Captain Charles Swan and Captain Edward Davis. He participated in numerous raids and plunderings, and he quickly gained a reputation for being a skilled and fearless pirate.

However, Dampier was not content to simply be a pirate. He was also a curious and intelligent man, and he was fascinated by the natural world. He kept a journal of his observations, and he collected specimens of plants and animals from the places he visited.

Exploration Voyages

In 1697, Dampier sailed with Captain William Funnell on a voyage to explore the Pacific Ocean. The expedition was unsuccessful, and Funnell was killed by mutineers. However, Dampier managed to escape and return to England.

In 1699, Dampier commanded his own expedition to the Pacific Ocean. He sailed with two ships, the *Roebuck* and the *Dolphin*. The expedition was a success, and Dampier explored the coast of Australia and New Guinea. He also visited the Galapagos Islands, and he made contact with the native peoples of the region.

Dampier returned to England in 1701, and he published an account of his voyage. The book was a bestseller, and it made Dampier a famous explorer. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and he was awarded a pension by the government.

Later Years

Dampier spent his later years in England. He continued to write about his travels, and he published several books, including *A Voyage to New Holland* (1703) and *A Discourse on the Winds* (1705).

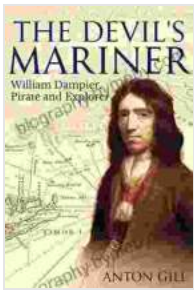
William Dampier died in London in 1715. He was 63 years old. He is buried in St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street.

Legacy

William Dampier was one of the most important figures of the Age of Exploration. He was a skilled navigator, a gifted explorer, and a keen observer of the natural world. His writings helped to change the way Europeans viewed the world, and he inspired future generations of explorers.

Dampier's legacy lives on today. He is remembered as a great pirate and explorer, and his name is synonymous with adventure.

The life of William Dampier is a tale of adventure, exploration, and discovery. He was a man of many talents, and his achievements were remarkable. He was a true pioneer, and his legacy continues to inspire people today.



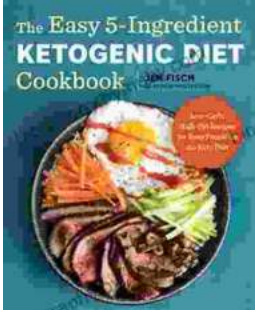
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