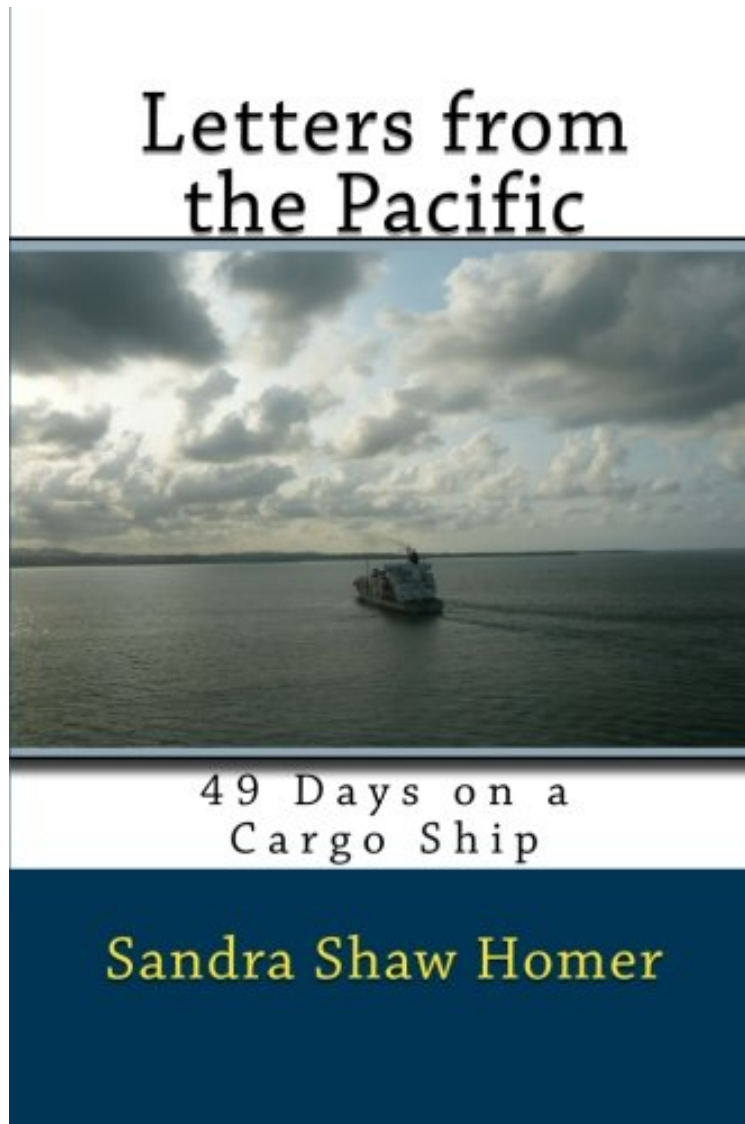


(Download free ebook) Letters from the Pacific: 49 Days on a Cargo Ship

Letters from the Pacific: 49 Days on a Cargo Ship

Sandra Shaw Homer

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Sandra Shaw Homer : Letters from the Pacific: 49 Days on a Cargo Ship before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Letters from the Pacific: 49 Days on a Cargo Ship:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Container ship to paradiseBy captainmcdSandra was an expatriate living in Costa Rica when she booked passage on a container ship that made a seven week voyage around the South Pacific from Panama. I felt sorry for her leaving her husband at home and visiting beautiful places but not having enough time to see much but container terminals in most of them. She accurately describes life aboard as a passenger and her time to evaluate her life and the lives of people she met.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Enjoyable travel diary of a passenger on a container ship for 49 days
By Sarah Benson
This is my kind of book. It reads at a comfortable pace with wonderful attention paid to the ever different sky and ocean. The author lucked out getting on a ship with interesting crew members or maybe she was just curious enough to bring out the best of their personalities. I was reading several books at a time and found I wanted to pick this one up first. A sign of a pleasurable read. Thanks.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I like reading about traveling aboard ships
By Gail J. Tatangelo
I like reading about traveling aboard ships. Enjoy the port information and learning just how these huge vessels are controlled and about their inner workings. It makes for a very interesting and fast read. Thank You Capt. R E Vezina (ret.) Coventry, R.I. 02816

The beauty of long-distance ocean travel is that you climb on board, unpack your things and stay in one place while the ship does all the traveling for you. And then what? your friends ask. Forty-nine days of empty ocean look like a long time, but in these engaging letters home about the characters on board, the ports exotic and dull, the workings of the ship itself, and the endless, sibilant sea the voice of the interior journey began to assert itself. Who knew where it would go? Readers say the result is a slow boat to everywhere they want a book to take them, a vividly told voyage on the high seas, and a penetrating look into why were compelled to go . . . and to come home.

From Kirkus s: Debut author Homer chronicles her experiences traveling via cargo freighter. Homer's first book is an adventure story--the journal of her 49-day trip through the South Pacific as a passenger on the Louise, a cargo freighter. The author hates flying, and had no interest in a cruise ship's gorging and gambling, so she decided, why not rough it? From Costa Rica to Australia and back, by way of Tahiti, Fiji, New Caledonia, and New Zealand, the Louise churned its 45,000 tons (cargo and author included) into the "open-ended silence of the sea." Its passenger comes away with plenty of good stories to share along with "a decidedly unromantic view of the life of a seaman." In Fiji, Homer missed out on seeing Raymond Burr's orchids but did visit a pricey resort with "a man-made island in the shape of a giant footprint." In former colonial islands, she discovered to her chagrin that "the French seem always to be French, no matter where they are." The glorious and the grim are each delineated in detail, from the "foreign country of constellations in the sky" to the constant awareness that "a freighter is a noisy, dirty, smelly beast." The aches and pains of travel are here in full measure: the cold of the ship, the pangs of arthritis in her knees, and the limbs barked against listing furniture. Because much of the journal comprises minimally edited diary entries and letters to friends, the reading experience can be choppy, especially since past and present tense mingle freely. But because of the immediacy of the reporting, Homer's character--questing, worrying, laughing--comes across with terrific clarity. We come to know her well, or feel as though we do, and the curious world of cargo ports and the crews that visit them become even more intriguing through her eyes. A detailed, rare, and rewarding ride over a watery part of the world. --Kirkus s
From Publishers Weekly: Homer (The Magnificent Dr. Wao) inspires readers with this chronicle of a 49-day "voyage of exploration" she took through the South Pacific--from the Panama Canal to Tahiti, Fiji, New Caledonia, Australia, and New Zealand--as a passenger aboard a cargo ship. Homer embarks on her journey for a number of reasons: to experience again "the joy of being afloat in the vast, undefined watery spaces" that she first felt as a child on her father's boat; to find some sort of "magic" that would wipe out troubles both physical (arthritis) and mental (doubts about her long-time marriage); and, while seeing other countries, to experience what a friend tells her: "Keep looking inward and see what the moment has to teach you." What she discovers--and artfully describes--are the joys and hardships of life on a working ship ("A freighter is a noisy, dirty, smelly beast"), the beauty of the high seas ("With little warning, the red blob of sun oozed forth from the primordial soup, then slowly backlit the clouds above it, first in mauve, then rose, then gold"), and the strength she finds to go back to her daily life renewed, with a new appreciation for the "someone who has always been inside me but has been ignored for too long." (BookLife)