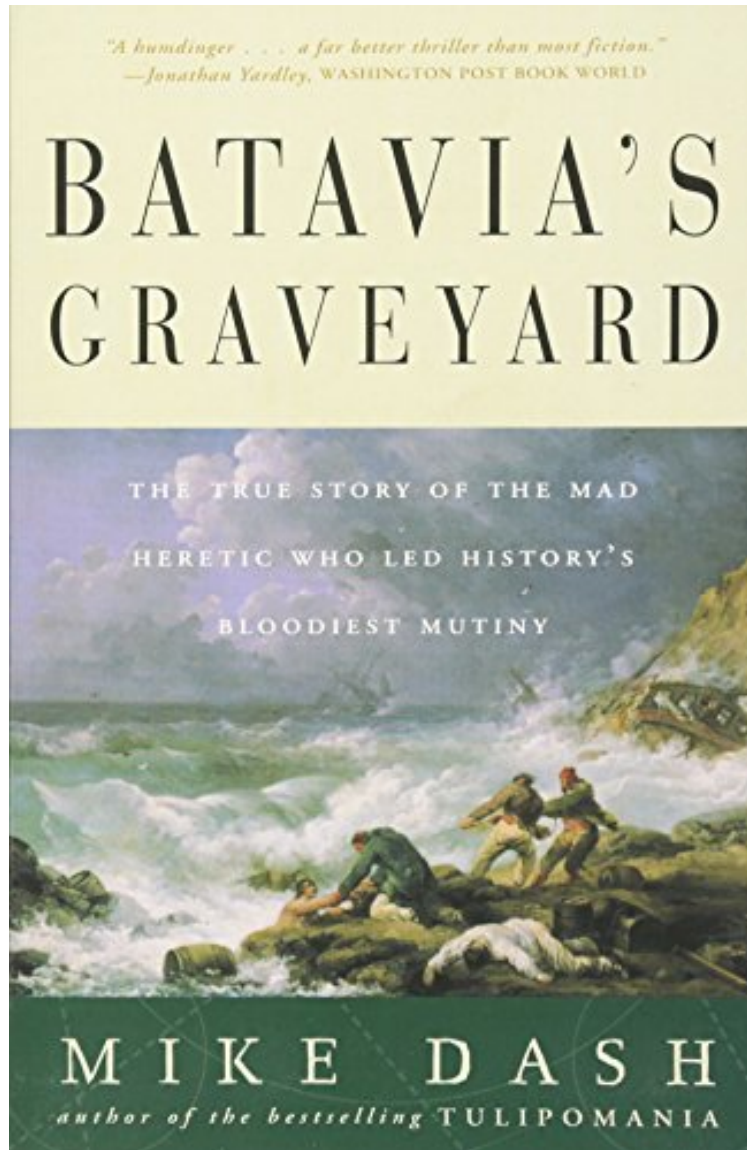


[FREE] Batavia's Graveyard: The True Story of the Mad Heretic Who Led History's Bloodiest Mutiny

Batavia's Graveyard: The True Story of the Mad Heretic Who Led History's Bloodiest Mutiny

Mike Dash

ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#278837 in Books Mike Dash 2003-05-27 2003-05-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.97 x 1.10 x 5.171, 1.20 #File Name: 0609807161512 pages Batavia s Graveyard The True Story of the Mad Heretic Who Led History s Bloodiest Mutiny | File size: 47.Mb

Mike Dash : Batavia's Graveyard: The True Story of the Mad Heretic Who Led History's Bloodiest Mutiny before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Batavia's Graveyard: The True Story of the Mad Heretic Who Led History's Bloodiest Mutiny:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An Enlightening True Tale of a Little Known Period of European History
By Stephen Hart
This book is a surprising gem, bringing to life a period of history which not many contemporary authors have paid much attention to. The life and times of the Dutch during the zenith of their influence and power in the 16th century as the premier commercial traders of the world is described in the context of a truly horrible story of mutiny, madness and slaughter. Dash describes life aboard a Dutch sailing vessel of the period at a time in which little was known about nautical navigation. Life and physical accommodations aboard ship itself were a nightmare to all but the wealthiest travelers. Based on extensive research, including ship's logs, the Dutch Trading Company's (VOC) records, memoirs and letters of several principals involved and even anthropological evidence unearthed in the 1960's and 70's, one is swept into a fascinating look at how a voyage of commerce to the East Indies ended in shipwreck, followed by the breakdown of civil behavior among the survivors and leading to the murders of dozens of innocent people for no reason other than to satisfy the blood lust of the leader of a relatively (at first) small number of mutineers. That any of the crew and passengers survived, marooned on a small coral atoll in the East Indian Sea is astonishing. The subsequent rescue of survivors and punishment of those guilty for the slaughter provides a fitting end to this well written sea tale. To readers interested in expanding their knowledge of world History I heartily recommend this book. You won't regret it.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Unbelievable true account of horror
By Bookman
Horror on the seas. Never has there been a more unbelievable tale of men turning into animals. This book should be taught in schools, studied by professionals, etc. It's hard to describe without spoilers. Let's just say one man leads many to do a great deal of evil. Like Hitler on a tiny island in the ocean. It wasn't enjoyable to read, but it was so fascinating I had to keep reading. You have to keep going just to find out what happens! I gave the book to my father and he devoured it quickly as well. After reading this, I tried to read another shipwreck story with mutiny involved, and it paled in comparison to the point where I couldn't even read it. This book will cast a large shadow over all other mutiny books, and turn the volume down on them. Beware!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Liked it much more than expected. Love the Audio CD.
By Steve
I love true accounts of historical events, and this book was recommended to me by a friend as being "right up my alley". I was skeptical, as I typically don't find myself as interested in events from this era. That being said, I thoroughly enjoyed reading (or listening to, in my case) this book. It was a fascinating story. The audio cd is good, easy to rip them and put them on my podcast player on my phone.

In 1628 the Dutch East India Company loaded the *Batavia*, the flagship of its fleet, with a king's ransom in gold, silver, and gems for her maiden voyage to Java; the ship itself was a tangible symbol of the world's richest and most powerful monopoly. The company also sent along a new employee to guard its treasure. He was Jeronimus Corneliszoon, a disgraced and bankrupt man with great charisma and dangerously heretical ideas. With the help of a few disgruntled sailors, he hatched a plot to seize the ship and her riches. The mutiny might have succeeded, but in the dark morning hours of June 3, 1629, the *Batavia* smashed through a coral reef and ran aground on a small chain of islands near Australia. The captain and skipper escaped the wreck, and in a tiny lifeboat they set sail for Java some 1,500 miles north to summon help. More than 250 frightened survivors waded ashore, thankful to be alive. Unfortunately, Jeronimus and the mutineers had survived too, and the nightmare was only beginning.

.com In 1629, the Dutch merchantman *Batavia* grounded on a desolate atoll near Western Australia. Of the 200 survivors, 115 were subsequently murdered, in coldest blood, by a group of the ship's sailors and their psychopathic leader, Jeronimus Corneliszoon. *Batavia's Graveyard* is Mike Dash's unnerving, measured account of the incident. The victims included children, babies, and pregnant women; the crimes took place over a period of several months. Though the killings make a substantial, chilling tale in themselves, Dash adroitly places the shocking spree in larger context with illuminating discussions of 17th century medical practices, religious heresy, global politics, and shipboard sociology and daily life. Additionally, he draws dozens of portraits of the participants in this ghastly drama, most fascinatingly that of Corneliszoon, who emerges as a grotesquely charismatic predecessor of the likes of Charles Manson and Ted Bundy. *Batavia's Graveyard*, a skillful melding of accessible scholarship and evenhanded narrative and of overview and telling detail, is a welcome achievement. --H. O'Billovitch
From Publishers Weekly
Dash's sociology of the paranormal (*Borderlands*) and of obsession in Holland (*Tulipomania*) prepared him nicely for this telling of a 17th-century ship loaded with Dutchmen, treasure and fanaticism. In 1629 the *Batavia*, a 160-foot merchant ship launched by the Dutch East India Company, was carrying silver to East India when it ran upon coral atolls northwest of Australia and coughed up its passengers. In Dash's account, the survivors 300 passengers and about 50 sociopathic crewmen settled on the tiny island, soon to be called *Batavia's Graveyard*, and quickly became madhouse models of Dutch social classes. Officers set out in life boats to Java for help, leaving Jeronimus Corneliszoon, a failed apothecary and heretic, in charge; he began terrorizing his own crewmen, then the other marooned passengers. Within two months, 115 of the survivors (including 30 women and children) had murdered each other with swords, pikes, daggers and by drowning (Corneliszoon poisoned an infant that kept him awake). In a narrative reminiscent of *Lord of the Flies*, Dash describes the creeping sadism that sprang from Holland's religious conflicts, which were channeled through the Jim Jones-like charisma of Corneliszoon. The book is driven by Dash's

research (a quarter of the book is notes and appendices, including material from newly discovered records in Holland), but the same attention to detail (e.g., the narrative lists and the psychobiography of Corneliszoon) interrupts the pace. The story of the Batavia incident is already well recorded, and even though Dash has taken it to a new level of grotesque accuracy, his nautical drama never truly comes to life. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Dash clearly has a yen for the quirky. After examining the trouble a few flowers caused in Tulipomania, he turns to a brutal mutiny in 1629 aboard the Batavia, a treasure ship belonging to the Dutch East India Company. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.