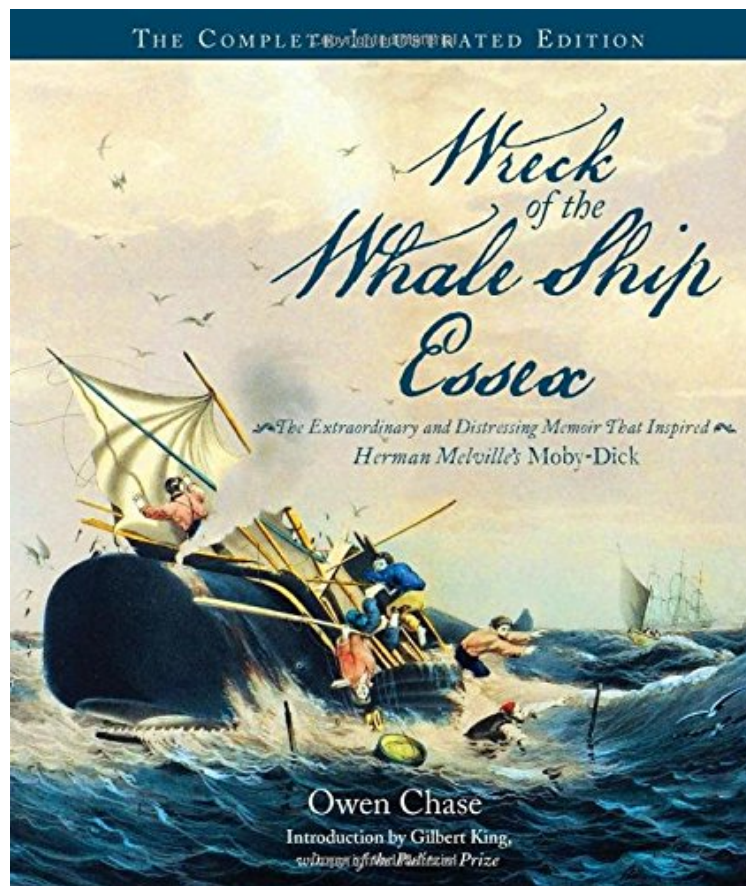


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Wreck of the Whale Ship Essex: The Complete Illustrated Edition: The Extraordinary and Distressing Memoir That Inspired Herman Melville's Moby-Dick

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very good edition.By cynthia perkinsReally enjoyed.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The real true story behind Melville's "Moby Dick".By ValNot only did this book meet my expectations but it exceeded my expectations. This story has fascinated me for years, ever since I first read Moby Dick and found out it was based on a true story. To read it as written by a man who experienced it first hand was astonishing. I cannot imagine living through such an ordeal.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. This

particular version is very well-illustrated and could easily find its way onto many coffee tables. By beetdaddy. The book written by Owen Chase is a riveting account of a harrowing experience full of excitement, action, death and the darkest side of human nature when under pressure. Try cutting out the heart of a dead comrade, roasting it on an open fire and then slicing it up for the eating. There's much more. Anyone interested in the history of whaling or early ocean adventures must read this. This particular version is very well-illustrated and could easily find its way onto many coffee tables. This is, however, a rather irritating read in that Chase's book is laid out with numerous interruptions of side stories and distractions. You read along with Chase and then, all of a sudden, you have a break where an article about some other experience or item of interest may take up several pages. To keep your train of thought with Chase, you have to leaf through several pages and try to find where his book resumes. I danced through all the distractions and finished Chase's book and then back-tracked to read the many distracting inserts. It's all interesting but the layout could have been better done to preserve the flow of reading the main book and adding the accessory material in an appendix or at least between chapters of the main book. Overall, though, get the book. It's a large book with good information and pretty illustrations.

Read Owen Chase's memoir which inspired *Moby-Dick* and *In the Heart of the Sea*, the major motion picture from Ron Howard, released December 2015. Owen Chase was the first mate on the ill-fated American whaling ship *Essex*, which was attacked and sunk by a sperm whale in the southern Pacific Ocean in 1820. The crew spent months at sea in leaking boats and endured the blazing sun, attacks by killer whales, and lack of food. The men were forced to resort to cannibalism before the final eight survivors were rescued. Herman Melville based his 1851 novel, *Moby-Dick*, on the sinking. Chase recorded the tale of the ship's sinking and the following events with harrowing clarity in the *Wreck of the Whale Ship Essex*. "I turned around and saw him about one hundred rods [500 m or 550 yards] directly ahead of us, coming down with twice his ordinary speed of around 24 knots (44 km/h), and it appeared with tenfold fury and vengeance in his aspect. The surf flew in all directions about him with the continual violent thrashing of his tail. His head about half out of the water, and in that way he came upon us, and again struck the ship." - Owen Chase. Filled with art, photographs, maps, and artifacts, this is a richly illustrated edition of Chase's memoir, augmented with memoirs of other participants, as well as the perspectives of historians, contemporary and modern. "If you are interested in a coffee-table book which covers the importance of the whaling industry and the wreck that influenced Herman Melville to write the American classic *Moby-Dick*, then get the *Complete Illustrated Edition: Wreck of the Whale Ship Essex*." - William Connery, Author of *Civil War Northern Virginia 1861*

"His narrative comes to life in this new, illustrated version, filled with more than 200 photographs, maps, fine-art prints and drawings." - Boston Globe