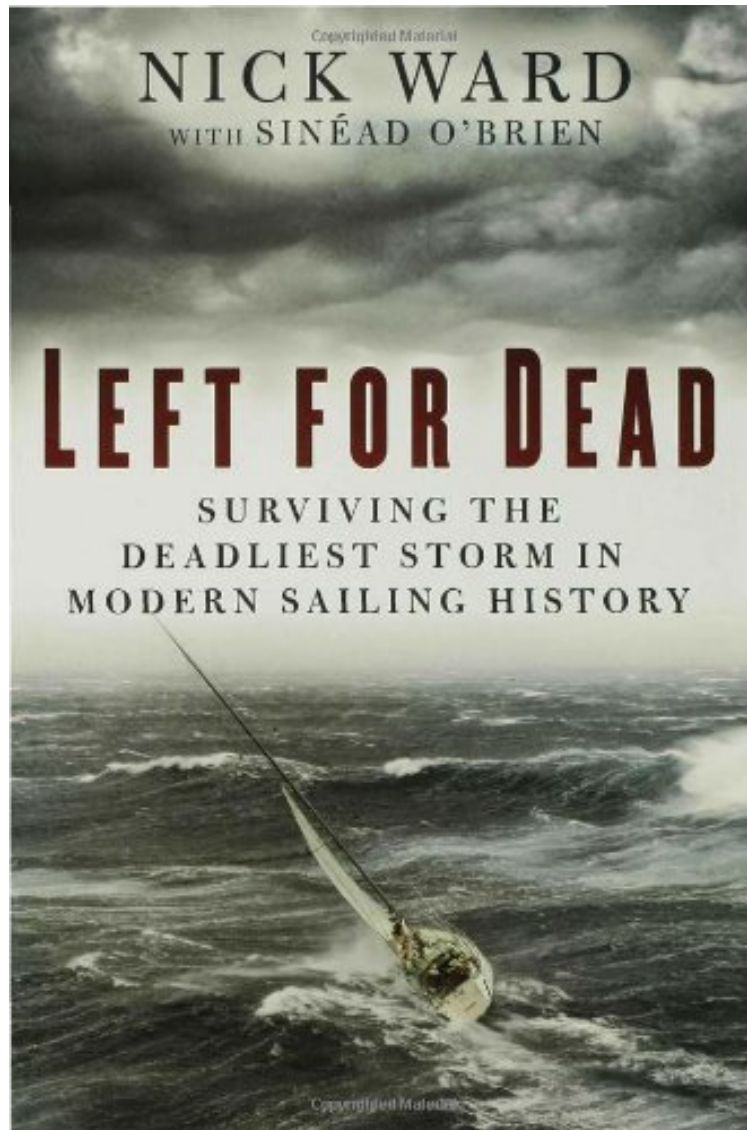


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Left for Dead: Surviving the Deadliest Storm in Modern Sailing History

Nick Ward, Sinead O'Brien

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#1060722 in Books Bloomsbury USA 2007-08-07 2007-08-07Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 243.33 x .86 x 6.28l, 1.01 #File Name: 1596914556208 pagesGreat product! | File size: 28.Mb

Nick Ward, Sinead O'Brien : Left for Dead: Surviving the Deadliest Storm in Modern Sailing History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Left for Dead: Surviving the Deadliest Storm in Modern Sailing History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dead Men Do Tell TalesBy PaperjouleIn sailboat racing the Fastnet Race, (where the English Channel meets the Irish Sea at the Atlantic Ocean), is the Holy Grail. If you are lucky

enough to be chosen to crew on a boat in the race forevermore your reputation as a sailor is sealed. Nick Ward's account of being in the Fastnet Race of 1979 and left for dead on the Atlantic Ocean when he was twenty four years old is riveting. Epileptic and talking to his dead crew mate for eighteen hours before being the last person rescued, he survived on a tin of milk and extraordinary mental stamina gained from having a brain hemorrhage when he was fifteen years old. Writing the story 26 years later including technical explanations, weather charts and excerpts from the Official Fastnet Inquiry, Nick does a great job giving the reader a 360 degree view of what happened that day. He even quotes what Ted Turner, the '79 winner had to say about the race. "Every time you go in an airplane you risk your life. Every time you get in a car you risk your life. Who'd have thought the Titanic would go down? If you stay ashore you die- eventually. Storms like that happen." He was right, I would much rather have been taking part than watching.' Nick's love of the seas and fairness in depicting the events of the race make for a gripping and educational tale. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What an amazing story! By Angela Andelson I picked up this book after reading *The Billionaire and the Mechanic* by Julian Guthrie and *The Proving Ground* by G. Bruce Knecht. When America's Cup came to San Francisco last year, I became interested in learning more about this prestigious race, which led me to learn more about the sailors and other sailing races as well. I found *Left for Dead* (as well as the other two books) to be fantastic reads. It was amazing to hear Nick's story about surviving the 1979 Fastnet Race. The book was an easy and exciting read and after reading these last few books on sailing races, I have a greater respect and appreciation for the sport and the sailors. Sailing is a demanding sport and the sea can be so unforgiving. If you are looking for an exciting adventure, read this book! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Abandoned By Paulette F. Bethel Heart pounding, I read the recounting of Nick Ward's tragic experience of the 1979 Fastnet yacht race. Yes, this is a fast paced tale of one of the worst yachting tragedies in history, but it is much more than that; it offers a glimpse of the moral fiber of a man left behind, left for dead. It is an honest, mind numbing confession of a survivor. The thoughts, decisions and actions taken by Ward as he drifted in huge seas with a dead companion are a testament to his willingness to be totally vulnerable about what happened aboard the 30' yacht *Grimalkin*. Awesome courage and a great read. Highly recommended.

In August of 1979, Nick Ward began the 600-mile course of the UK's Fastnet Race with perfect weather. Within 48 hours, the deadliest storm in the history of modern sailing had blasted through the Irish Sea. By the time it had passed, it had thrown one of the world's most prestigious races into bedlam and taken the lives of fifteen sailors. Ward's boat, *Grimalkin*, was capsized again and again, and the skipper lost overboard; after hours of struggle, three of the crew fled the boat for the liferaft. Nick and his crewmate Gerry, both injured, unconscious, and presumed dead, were abandoned on the beleaguered yacht. Gerry died a few hours later, and Nick was left alone to face down a storm that has become legendary among sailors and racing fans alike. "Left for Dead" is Nick Ward's harrowing and inspirational memoir of how he survived that dreadful night. After his dramatic rescue, Ward was overwhelmed by media and decided in 1980 not to speak of the incident again. It wasn't until this book's coauthor, Sinead O'Brien, approached him about the story that he began the personal writings that became this book. Here at last is the untold true story of an accident that has intrigued lovers of the sea for almost thirty years.

From Publishers Weekly Raised in the 1960s in the village of Hamble on England's south coast, Ward was given sailing lessons by his father by the age of four and quickly grew to love the water. Given that Hamble was near the launching point for a 600-mile race called Fastnet, it's little surprise that come August of 1979 Ward leaped at the opportunity to take part. He describes the race, which killed 15 racers and sank five boats. He tells of what happened when his craft, the *Grimalkin*, got caught in a vicious storm that blew in across the Atlantic and caught the racing boats in the Irish Sea. The 50-foot waves and 80-knot winds capsized many boats, including his own, which was abandoned by most of its crew. Remaining on board was a dead shipmate and Ward, who tried to maintain his sanity as the storm raged on. That Ward, who had suffered a brain hemorrhage as a teenager and was taking antiseizure medication, survived such a devastating storm at all is something near miraculous. Unfortunately, with the exception of some exuberantly rhapsodic passages near the start on his love for the art of sailing, Ward's book (written with documentary filmmaker O'Brien) is a stiff affair. (Aug.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist With journalist O'Brien's assistance, Ward offers all maritime buffs, especially yachtsmen, quite a treat: a survivor's account of the most famous disaster in yacht racing, the decimation of the Fastnet Race of 1979. Three hundred boats were caught in an unexpected Force 10 gale blowing in off the Atlantic. Ward was aboard *Grimalkin*, and the skipper and three other crew members abandoned him for dead (he was epileptic). One friend stayed aboard, sacrificing his life to keep Ward alive until rescue arrived via helicopter. The larger picture is already available from many other books, John Rousmaniere's *Fastnet, Force 10* (1980) perhaps foremost among them; but Ward's personal perspective provides some exceptionally vivid images of men losing it aboard a small boat in a large storm. It also allows him the closure that readers well may agree he richly deserves. Deep-dyed maritime buffs will recall the classic sailor's prayer, "Oh Lord, thy sea is so great, and my boat is so small" and turn the pages unstintingly from beginning to end. Green, Roland His torrential narrative presents a

remarkable seafaring saga that will have readers aching for the eventual rescue. A harrowing, thrilling, first-person tale of survival in the sea. Kirkus s, June 1, 2007gripping story Seattle Times