

GLYN WILLIAMS

Voyages of Delusion

THE QUEST
FOR THE
NORTHWEST
PASSAGE



Voyages Of Delusion The Quest For The Northwest Passage

David Igler



Voyages Of Delusion The Quest For The Northwest Passage:

Voyages of Delusion Glyndwr Williams, 2003-01-01 Describes the expeditions embarked upon by sailors and speculators to navigate the Northwest Passage during the Age of Reason in the eighteenth century Voyages of Delusion Glyndwr Williams, 2002 Glyn Williams's book charts the 18th century's perilous and often fatal attempts to discover a passage through the Arctic to the Pacific. Set in the heat of 18th century exploration fever, it charts the many perilous expeditions undertaken to find the maritime philosopher's stone from amongst the ice and eskimos of Hudson Bay. Fuelled by the promise of fame and riches from revitalised British trade and dominance of the North American continent, the search for this illusory passage even captivated Cook, the most pragmatic of explorers. Williams examines successive expeditions from James Knight to George Vancouver. The secretive Hudson's Bay Company plays a supporting role throughout, as does Sir Arthur Dobbs, whose political ambition and obsessive pursuit of the illusory passage relied heavily on exploitative cunning, personal greed, and putting other's lives at risk. Voyages of Delusion Glyndwr Williams, 2003 The eighteenth century, the Age of Reason, was characterized by determined attempts by philosophers, scientists, and political theorists to dispel myth, superstition, and ignorance. But the Age of Reason also witnessed some of the most irrational and vainglorious attempts by sailors and speculators to find a navigable Northwest Passage that would lead through the icy seas of the Arctic from Hudson Bay to the wealth of the Pacific Ocean. Lured by the promise of fame and riches, men endured paralyzing cold, malnutrition, and terrifying storms. Many lives and fortunes were lost in the quest for the elusive maritime philosopher's stone. Glyn Williams describes the adventures and mishaps of these misguided expeditions. The ^AGreat Ocean David Igler, 2013-03-18 A groundbreaking and lyrically written work that explores the world of the Pacific Ocean. **Captain Cook's Final Voyage** James K. Barnett, 2020-10-14 Maritime historian and researcher James K. Barnett transcribed two extraordinary little-known journals from Captain James Cook's third exploratory voyage. They offer remarkable eyewitness accounts at the time of initial European contact: the first reasonably accurate maps of North America's west coast, the earliest comprehensive report from the Bering Sea ice pack, and the dramatic story of Cook's death at Kealahukua Bay. Astonishing for accounts of landings along Hawai'i, Vancouver Island, and Alaska, both chronicles languished in Australian archives for over a century. Barnett adds context and commentary to complete the story. Commissioned by the British Admiralty, Cook set sail in July 1776 to confirm the outline of North America's Pacific coastline and search for the elusive Northwest Passage. The expedition's sailing ships, the *Resolution* and the *Discovery*, traveled to the South Seas, then chanced upon the Hawaiian Islands before reaching the Oregon coastline. And the Arctic? Cook chose to winter in the Hawaiian archipelago, where he died in a skirmish. His crews made a second attempt to find the coveted route, then returned to England after more than four years at sea. James Burney was first lieutenant on the *Discovery*. Active in shore parties and chart preparation, he saw Cook's death from the ship's deck. One of the few accounts from the consort vessel, his writing provides new details and important, thoughtful impressions of

North and South Pacific people and places Working under the notorious William Bligh Henry Roberts was Master s Mate on the Resolution performing essential hydrographic and cartographic tasks He was a few feet away when Cook was killed His well illustrated logbook includes coordinates tables of routes and records of weather at sea but also lively accounts of shore excursions Illustrations include maps and drawings as well as images by the expedition s official artist John Webber

Captain Cook Rediscovered David L. Nicandri,2020-11-01 Captain Cook Rediscovered is the first modern study to frame Captain James Cook s career from a North American vantage Although Cook is inextricably linked to the South Pacific in the popular imagination his crowning navigational and scientific achievements took place in the polar regions Recognizing that Cook sailed more miles in the high latitudes of all of the world s oceans than in the tropical zone this book gives due attention to his voyages in seas and lands usually neglected David L Nicandri acknowledges the cartographic accomplishments of the Australasian first voyage but focuses on the second and third voyage discovery missions near the poles where Cook pioneered the science of iceberg and icepack formation This ground breaking book overturns an area of study that has been typically dominated by the palm tree paradigm resulting in a truly modern appraisal of Cook for the climate change era

Literature, Science and Exploration in the Romantic Era Tim Fulford,Debbie Lee,Peter J. Kitson,2004-09-02 In 1768 Captain James Cook made the most important scientific voyage of the eighteenth century He was not alone scores of explorers like Cook travelling in the name of science brought new worlds and new peoples within the horizon of European knowledge for the first time Their discoveries changed the course of science Old scientific disciplines such as astronomy and botany were transformed new ones like craniology and comparative anatomy were brought into being Scientific disciplines in turn pushed literature of the period towards new subjects forms and styles Works as diverse as Mary Shelley s *Frankenstein* and Wordsworth s *Excursion* responded to the explorers and scientists latest discoveries This wide ranging and well illustrated study shows how literary Romanticism arose partly in response to science s appropriation of explorers encounters with foreign people and places and how it in turn changed the profile of science and exploration *A Century of Discovery*

Gwyn Griffiths,2005 *Oregon Historical Quarterly* Oregon Historical Society,2004 **The Oxford Companion to World Exploration: M-Z, index** David Buisseret,2007 Contains cross referenced articles arranged alphabetically from Donald Mackay to Zheng He on topics of land space and sea exploration and provides biographical profiles of notable explorers throughout history Includes a topical outline of entries and a directory of contributors *A bibliography on the imagined North* Daniel Chartier,2007 **The Michigan Historical Review** ,2004 *Britain and the Americas [3 volumes]* Will Kaufman,Heidi Slettedahl Macpherson,2005 *Journal of the West* Lorrin L. Morrison,Carroll Spear Morrison,2004

Mapping and Imagination in the Great Basin Richard V. Francaviglia,2005 The Great Basin was the last region of continental North America to be explored and mapped and it remained largely a mystery to European Americans until well into the nineteenth century In *Mapping and Imagination in the Great Basin* geographer historian Richard Francaviglia shows

how the Great Basin gradually emerged from its cartographic silence as Terra Incognita and how this fascinating process both paralleled the development of the sciences of surveying geology hydrology and cartography and reflected the changing geopolitical aspirations of the European colonial powers and the United States Francaviglia's remarkable interdisciplinary account of the mapping of the Great Basin combines an exciting chronicle of the exploration of the region with a history of the art and science of cartography and of the political economic and cultural contexts in which maps are created It also offers a compelling wide ranging discussion that combines a description of the daunting physical realities of the Great Basin with a cogent examination of the ways humans from early Native Americans to nineteenth century surveyors to twentieth century highway and air travelers have understood defined and organized this space psychologically and through the medium of maps Jacket

The Princeton University Library Chronicle Lawrence Thompson, 2002 Vol 1 includes section Biblia devoted to the interests of the Friends of the Princeton Library v 11

Program of the ... Annual Meeting American Historical Association. Meeting, 2004

Arctic Labyrinth Glyndwr Williams, 2009 For centuries British navigators dreamed of finding the Northwest Passage the route over the top of North America that promised a short cut to the fabulous wealth of Asia We now know that several passages exist and if climate change continues some may soon be open but for most of the period of the search they were choked by impassable ice Knowledge was won only at great cost as expedition after expedition often in the most terrible conditions added to patchy and sometimes fatally misleading charts ARCTIC LABYRINTH tells the extraordinary story with great skill and brilliance From the tiny woefully equipped ships of the first Tudor expeditions to the steam powered vessels of the Victorian age and the icebreakers of the modern era Glyn Williams describes how every form of ingenuity was tried in order to break through the ice barriers set across a nightmarish maze of tortuous channels and sterile islands The heroism folly and horror of these voyages were almost unbelievable men suffered and died from scurvy frost bite and starvation entire ships were crushed in the ice and all in pursuit of a goal that proved futile Williams's book is an important work of exploration and maritime history and a remarkable study in human delusion and fortitude

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