



Mayflower: The Voyage From Hell

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The writer Kevin Jackson looks at the reality behind the mythic status of the Mayflower - and the journey that 'created' the New World. Most of the voyagers of that famed 1620 crossing of the Atlantic were not in fact religious pilgrims, but people intent on forging a better life for themselves in the virgin territory of America's east coast. 130 hardy souls were confined in a space no bigger than a tennis court, braving the 'Northern' crossing, without any firm idea of what awaited them in the New World. A riveting account of the sailing that changed the world.

Mayflower: The Voyage From Hell Details

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From Reader Review Mayflower: The Voyage From Hell for online ebook

Rick says

An enjoyable book but I did find that jumping around from different dates rather than chronological took something away from the reading. That said, the story was a nice consolidation of the events of the Mayflower and her journey's. To read how religion influenced our first leaders really points out that the separation of church and state did not remotely exist and ironically religion was used to form the newly arriving government and their morals and responsibilities to each other. The struggles they survived during the initial building of this country really showed the resolve of people who were seeking Religious and Social Freedoms that we all take for granted today. There is much more to this story but, this gives a nice summary of the Mayflower.

kathy bracy says

Interesting

A bit too much detail at times but nevertheless an interesting account of the mayflower voyage, details before, and the aftermath

Rachel Kahn says

This was a short non-fiction account (62 pages) and I enjoyed it. Had some good information I did not know and was easy to read. Piqued my interest to read more in-depth stories about this, such as Nathaniel Philbrick's one.

Robert John Bristow says

Too brief for such a compelling tale. Swathes of information skipped, notably the crossing and life / setting up... but it's good if you want the broad strokes in a quick read. Puts some misconceptions right, which was good.

Caroline Mathews says

A short book recounting the Mayflower voyage. I'm going to also read Of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford, one of the passengers on the Mayflower. It's always better to get the story directly from the horse's mouth, so to speak.

I came into the book knowing only that one of my Grandfathers was Thomas Rogers, that he had his son on

board ship with him, that he was one of the authors of the Mayflower Compact, and that he died the first winter from illnesses contracted during the journey. The two Rogers men had left Mother and four younger children at home in order to travel to a new world.

Rogers is mentioned only once in this book and that is on the list of the dead. Even so, I learned a few things about my early relative - whose son lived a long and fruitful life in his new home, Plymouth Plantation. The death list told me that Rogers was one of the group of "Saincts" who wanted to practice their separatist faith. They didn't call themselves Pilgrims and were not fleeing immediate persecution, but in fact, had been living as a group at Leyden which is in the Netherlands. He was not one of the other fifty or so passengers called the "Strangers." That half of the passenger list wasn't an organized group, and had other motives for traveling to the new world.

I learned not to confuse the Mayflower Pilgrims with the Massachusetts Bay Puritans who settled not far away but ten years later. Our Mayflower group did not go on to execute witches or hang Quakers!

Years later, Rogers' daughter, who was only ten on the year of the voyage, married and, with her husband, followed her brother to the new world. She was my 12th Great Grandmother.

A nice recounting of the past which gives me a thirst for greater knowledge and a need to do the research.

Etienne says

Good Primer For A Better Understanding of the "Pilgrims"

I decided to borrow this short read prior to the American Thanksgiving as I wanted to see what new insight I might obtain on what has unfortunately become a controversial group. Although, as a history buff, some of the information contained within the book was not news to me, the essential details given on the history of the group gives one a better comprehension of the Separatists or Pilgrims and why they did what they did. The book is balanced, revealing them as not only faithful Christians, but survivors in that first harsh winter which killed so many. We are rewarded with the telling of a story so many THINK they know, but due to myths and innuendos and outright lies, actually do not. As a Christian myself I appreciated that the author did not, as some so-called historians might, portray these people with offensive stereotypes before mocking their faith in God.

A perfect little read to enjoy before any Thanksgiving.

L. Lawson says

Brief but engaging

I learned a few new smaller details about the Mayflower and her crew. A worthy, short read if you are interested in a cursory glance at the time.

Tony Richards says

I was gifted this book on Thanksgiving and as it was such a short read I got started straight away. As a book it left me with even more questions than when I started which I guess is a good thing. It certainly cleared up a lot of confusion around the famous Mayflower voyage. I just wish it had a little more depth.

D.L. Kelly says

Excellent historic account of the lives of the people on the Mayflower. It WAS hell, diseases, unsanitary conditions, bad weather, death. Not what we picture when we think of the Mayflower. I recommend this book to people who like to get the inside scoop on our nation's beginnings.

Mark says

Glancing look at the Mayflower's voyage of 1620, starting at the reasons, who was on board, where did it depart and when. Covering the deaths on board and how the families settled in to the new world and their engagements with the indigenous population.

A good read for anyone who lives in the US and has forgotten the history of the country and why a white population lives there. I read to discover more about Edward Winslow who is from Droitwich Spa.

Holly Wilkinson says

Brief

This is a nice little introduction to the topic of the Mayflower and sets the tone well for further reading.

Belva says

This was a well written, well thought out piece of work. I was especially glad to see that Kevin Jackson differentiated the Pilgrims/Separatists from the Puritans (they arrived about ten years later). The Pilgrims were a much more compassionate group and didn't persecute those of opposing religious views as the Puritans did. While at least half of those brave souls aboard the Mayflower came to the new world to practice their religion in liberty, the other half came for a different reason. Those individuals came in search of something better than they had back in England. It is quite remarkable that most made the crossing alive considering the horrid conditions they endured. I think that reading this book will be a positive experience for most Americans. Perhaps it will give people a sense of gratitude for our hardy, humble, daring forbears. I highly recommend this one.

Mike Roebuck says

I finally finished with Mayflower: Just read with a large glass of water. Very dry. Plenty of info and historical background., But I could have only read 1st chapter and last 3 chapters and known all I needed.

Dave Wheeler says

A brief look at history and faith.

This is a wonderful account of the history of the pilgrims and their decision that changed and shaped the modern world as we know it. It wasn't their plan which was to escape the persecution they faced and build a new life for themselves. But you may already know all that so read on and find out about some of the personalities that shaped our lives today. There are many other s that have done so but it is part of our great story and we'll worth a read.

JACKIE ELLIFF says

Pilgrims and Puritans

A clear description of the Mayflower's passengers and their early life in America, together with their reasons for going there.
