

A Sea of Words: A Lexicon and Companion to the Complete Seafaring Tales of Patrick O'Brian

Dean King, John B. Hattendorf

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From ablation to Zelenka—a comprehensive guide to seafaring during the Napoleonic age

What is a sand-grouse, and where does it live? What are the medical properties of *lignum vitae*, and how did Stephen Maturin use it to repair his viola? Who is Admiral Lord Keith, and why is his wife so friendly with Captain Jack Aubrey?

More than any other contemporary author, Patrick O'Brian knew the past. His twenty Aubrey–Maturin novels, beginning with 1969's *Master and Commander*, are distinguished by deep characterization, heart-stopping naval combat, and an attention to detail that enriches and enlivens his stories. In this revised edition of *A Sea of Words*, Dean King and his collaborators dive into Jack Aubrey's world. In addition to their invaluable glossary, the authors provide essays on the age's politics, naval medicine, and the many ships that Jack Aubrey sailed, sighted, and fought against. For both the curious fan and the O'Brian aficionado, *A Sea of Words* is an invaluable tome on the British Royal Navy.



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