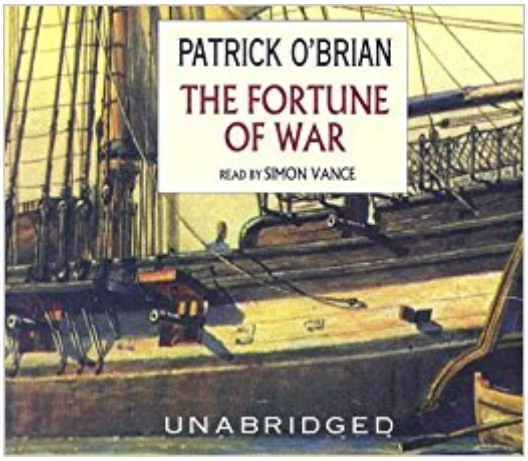
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# The Fortune Of War (Aubrey-Maturin Series, Book 6)




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## Synopsis

[Read by Simon Vance] The Fortune of War is the sixth novel in Patrick O'Brian's 'Aubrey-Maturin' series featuring O'Brian's much loved characters: Captain Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin After nearly losing the Leopard to the ocean, Captain Jack Aubrey, RN, and his diminished crew sail into harbor in the Dutch East Indies. There Aubrey finds himself appointed to the command of the fastest and best-armed frigate in the Royal Navy, but not before some forceful arguing with Admiral Drury. Aubrey and his friend Stephen Maturin take passage for England in a dispatch vessel, but the War of 1812 breaks out while they are en route. Bloody actions precipitate them both into new and unexpected scenes where Stephen's past activities as a secret agent return on him with a vengeance.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This time it's the War of 1812 that gets in the way of Captain Jack Aubery's plans. Caught en route to England in a dispatch vessel, Aubrey and Maturin are soon in the thick of a typically bloody naval engagement. Next stop: an American prison, from which only Maturin's cunning allows them to engineer an exit. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

''Mr. O'Brian reminds us with subtle artistry of the most important of all historical lessons: that times change, but people don't, that the griefs and follies and victories of the men and women who were

here before us are in fact the maps of our own lives.'' ''A marvellously full-flavored, engrossing book, which towers over its current rivals in the genre like a three-decker over a ship's longboat.'' --Times Literary Supplement''Good history, fascinating erudition, espionage, romance, fever in the hold, a wreck in lost latitudes, and an action at sea that for sheer descriptive power can match anything in sea-fiction.'' --Guardian ''The best thing afloat since Horatio Hornblower.'' --Observer ''[Patrick O'Brian has] the power of bringing near to the reader . . . savagery and tenderness, beauty and mystery and boldness and dignity.'' --Eudora Welty''Patrick O'Brian presents the lost arcana of that hard-pressed, cruel, courageous world with an immediacy that makes its workings both comprehensible and fascinating. But in the end it is the serious exploration of human character that gives the books their greatest power: the fretful play of mood that can irrationally darken the edges of the brightest triumph - and that can feed a trickle of merriment into the midst of terror and tragedy.'' --New York Times Book Review ''O'Brian's sheer brilliance as a writer constantly dazzles, and his power over the reader is unique. No writer alive can move one as O'Brian can; no one can make you laugh so loud with hilarity, whiten your knuckles with unbearable tension, or choke with emotion. He is the master.'' --Irish Times ''The best historical novels ever written.'' --New York Times Book Review ''O'Brian is astonishingly good.'' --Times (London) ''They're funny, they're exciting, they're informative. There are legions of us who gladly ship out time and time again under Captain Aubrey.'' --New Yorker''. . . full of the energy that comes from a writer having struck a vein... Patrick O'Brian is unquestionably the Homer of the Napoleonic wars.'' --James Hamilton-Paterson ''You are in for the treat of your lives. Thank God for Patrick O'Brian: his genius illuminates the literature of the English language, and lightens the lives of those who read him.'' --Irish Times ''As sinewy, and virile as its predecessors, this is a copper-bottomed investment for the numerous fans of Jack Aubrey . . . we sail breathlessly through perilous seas to the Far East. Vivid and authentic as is Mr O'Brian's mastery of period and life at sea, it is in his creation of characters that he excels.'' Daily Telegraph ''It has been said that this series is some of the finest historical fiction of our time . . . Aubrey and Maturin have been described as better than Holmes and Watson, the equal of Quixote and Panza . . . All this is true. And the marvel is, it hardly says enough.'' --Los Angeles Times ''Earphones Awards winner [audiobook narrator] Simon Vance juggles multiple characters, accents, and dramatic and comedic scenes with aplomb . . . Vance's warm, welcoming voice captures colorful characters, entertaining relationships . . . Readers in search of a handful of excellent companions with whom to spend many enjoyable hours will be hail and well met.'' --AudioFilemagazine audiobook review

Loved this book because Stephen Maturin moves from the background to the foreground. His bold actions are seen by the reader first hand rather than washed out by Stephen telling Aubrey about his feats. I also loved the glimpse of New England of 1813. My ignorance of the war of 1812 knows no bounds, given it was limited to Johnny Horton's song about the Battle of New Orleans which I now learned took place after the war was over. I also found the interaction with slaves in Boston in 1813 to be a shock to my system. It's that ignorance again... Having the excitement being land-based vs naval was exciting. It brought back memories of Horatio Hornblower and his key pals being brought overland for trial... All in all an exciting with dollop of history to boot!

O'Brian's story telling at it's best. So much action and a lot of everything else too. I have to say this is one of the best books in the series and I only say one of the best because I'm reading the series again and it's been so long that I don't remember the quality of those I haven't re-read yet. I know that I've always thought very highly of O'Brian as a writer and I'm sure the rest are great too but for now I'll say this is the best so far.I don't do synopses so you should read those provided by others if you want one. If you want an impression I'll say you'll get a very fine sense of the times including historical attitudes, historical settings, historical context, brilliant dialog, exceptional descriptive ability and total immersion in the story. I most highly recommend reading this book and suggest it is difficult to find equal entertainment for the price. It is a good series to come back to after a while too.

The best nautical historical fiction ever written, period. O'Brian researched exhaustively and infused a lifetime of passion, expertise, and emotion into every volume. The books are not only infinitely readable, they're page burners, each and every one, with laudable character development and environmental description that put you firmly in the midst of what you're reading, There is such a wealth of description, you'll want a dictionary, thesaurus, and an atlas at hand when you dive in. Trust me when I tell you, buy them all, because you won't be able to put them down, and when you're done with one, you'll simply have to have the next.

If you liked Assassin's Creed III, you're gonna love this one. (Sorry, I love the games. Guilty pleasure.)I keep feeling the same way about each book as I progress through this series, that each one is "the best one I've read so far." Frankly, I think this one is going to be one of the toughest to beat. O'Brian takes the guys on a troubled journey which sends them to Boston, and develops perhaps the most intriguing storyline up until this point in the series, culminating in the real-life defeat of the USS Chesapeake. He shows us Jack struggling as a badly-wounded prisoner for a

great deal of the book, completely on his heels in one way or another throughout. We see Stephen go through a painful reunion with Diana, commit two murders, and worry sincerely about his best friend. We see conflicted Americans take actions against their country to end a senseless war. As always, O'Brian gives us vivid settings, rich characters, action and humor to keep us glued in to the narrative. I had to give this one five stars, as I know I will be back to read it even as I continue to progress through the series. Highly recommended, if you're selectively picking through the series, this one can't be missed.

Patrick O'Brian breathes life into the early 1800's, mostly through two characters living In the age of sail, Aubrey is a sea captain fighting for the British admiralty against France other European powers. Maturin is a doctor and naturalist who travels aboard as a sometimes ship surgeon and other times in mystery.. The 21-book series of novels reveal an extraordinary research into human relationships, history, and language of the day. The the depth of writing is stunning, the historical detail is considerable, and the language of each character brings them alive on the page.Highly addictive. Buy the related reference book "A Sea of Terms" to help you start out with the phraseology and terms.

In this installment we see the beginning of the war between America and England. Jack and Stephen are captured, returning to England aboard another ship, and Jack is badly wounded and spends much of his time in a private American hospital, recovering.Meanwhile, Stephen is embroiled in American/French/English espionage, which very nearly result in his being captured again by the French, but intervention by his star crossed love, Diana, and a quick thinking rescue orchestrated by Jack and young Hespath, sets them aboard the Shannon, just in time for her heart pounding confrontation with the U.S.S. Chesapeake.

This is book 6 of the Aubrey/Maturin series. This one tells the story of the British and American navies and how they interacted in the time of Bonaparte. While all of the series tells navy stories -- action against other ships, the names of the parts of the ships, the day to day live of the sailors and the grammar and accepted behavior of the crew -- this one is special because of its American naval history.I liked it very much. It is a fine story well told by a master historian.

A different twist. Aubrey in an unusual role for him. Don't want to spoil it for others he and Maturin wind up against the Americans in a historical setting. Very well done.

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