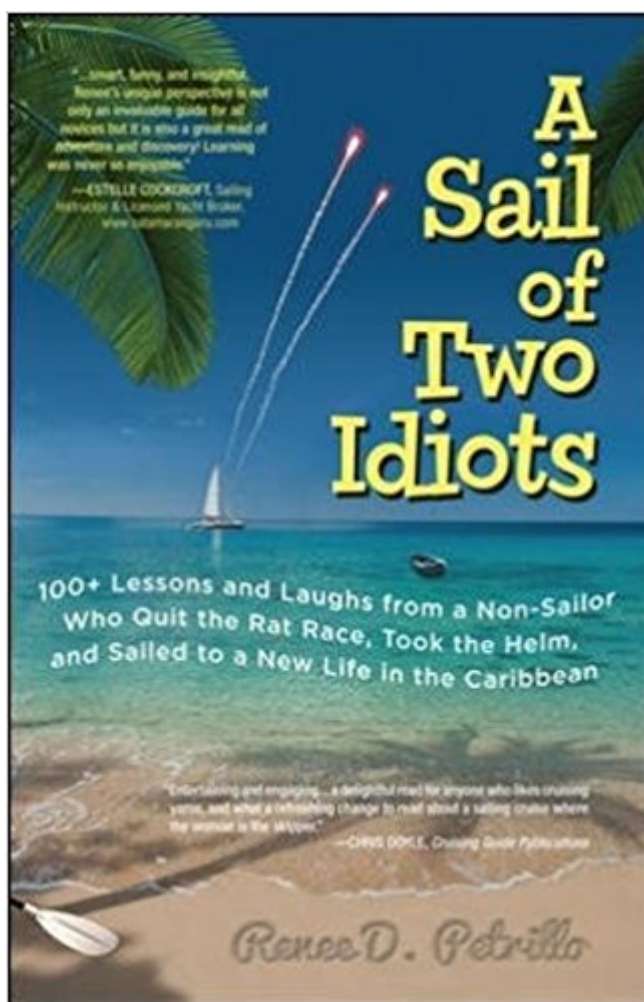


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A Sail Of Two Idiots: 100+ Lessons And Laughs From A Non-Sailor Who Quit The Rat Race, Took The Helm, And Sailed To A New Life In The Caribbean





Synopsis

“It was the best of dreams, it was the worst of dreams, it was an age of consulting the nautical experts, it was the age of landlubber foolishness, it was the epoch of determination, it was the epoch of despair, it was the season of hurricanes, it was a spring of beachcombing. If you dream about chucking it all away and sailing toward an island life, read this first Renee and Michael didn’t have any boating experience and when their plans to remedy that fell through the two had to learn everything the hard way. Despite themselves they managed to get from Miami to Grenada, eventually dropping the anchor of their cruising catamaran at the island of their dreams. Determined to save future sailors from themselves, A Sail of Two Idiots includes lessons Renee and Michael learned and shares them with you as examples of what and what not to do. This a how-to guide wrapped in a funny story – a kind of like getting your serving of vegetables from a slice of pizza. Read this and make your dream of sailing away a reality. Includes: “What Broke?” sections explores the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of a cruising multihull “Island” section provide assessments of the islands of the Caribbean

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Customer Reviews

Grabbed the book thinking it would be a great motivator. The authors ego made me have to put the book down and walk away multiple times. I only kept reading hoping her husband would leave her by the end of the book. I have never heard someone belittle there significant other so greatly in writing. Either he is totally incompetent with a IQ requiring someone to wipe his bottom, or she just

doesn't like him. Like everyone else, the first 1/3 of the book was somewhat interesting, the rest of the book is terrible "visit island, boat breaks, Mickey does something dumb, fix boat, sail to new island, can't anchor" repeat for 200 pages. Also, the authors use of hrrmmpp, oy, sad faces, and others makes it feel like you are reading a teenagers text messages not a book. If anyone wants this book cheap swing by my house next trash pickup day, it'll be on-top of the pile.

I have just sold my house and everything I own to live aboard a boat so this book was particularly interesting to me. Too many times, books of this type focus too heavily on the upside of the cruising life so it was a little refreshing to see that focus shift to the other side and provide a lessons learned. If you're planning on taking on this lifestyle, it's worth your read and may even talk you out of it. There is indeed a lot of maintenance and waiting for weather windows and all that which always seems to be glossed over in other books. The writing is *very* conversational. Once you notice the extraordinary use of exclamation points you will never be able to unsee them. There are lots of "hrrm", "oy" and various similar vocalizations that work in a verbal conversation but become a little overwhelming in written form. You either get used to it and enjoy it or you don't and it gets to be too much for you. This is a good story for the lessons learned. Some will be obvious to you and some will not so you will pick up some helpful hints.

xThis has to be THE best "instructive" book I have ever read! And that includes all though college and grad school! The didactic technique used by the author is something much needed by other instructors and one I have not encountered before to this degree. When you are teaching someone and new terms are used you define them. Well, everyone does that once anyway, but often authors seem to think readers will remember the term when it is introduced later. Sure, fine for one term, but if there are dozens, the reader has to go back to previous chapters or a glossary, or his own notes and look them up. Not so in this work! The author defines a term many times as it arises in different passages so that the reader does not have to look it up, which would interrupt the understanding and flow of the passage. You learn many nautical terms without having to repeatedly look them up. Many readers will simply skip over a term they do not understand and thus lose much of the meaning of the passage. That won't happen in this work. Then there is the wonderful description of the adventures of novice sailors and how they overcame obstacles and mostly had a delightful journey. I think that only one in twenty or less would have had such success, so don't be too tempted to give it all up and go sailing! We can enjoy vicariously the beauty of the adventure that a sail of two idiots had. Bravo! Well done.

I just finished reading this book for the second time and thought I would add my comments to the others I see posted. First of all, there are many different writing styles, and I enjoy reading different authors' works for that very reason. This author has a very conversational style. If you don't like that style of writing, you probably won't enjoy this book. I happen to find it refreshing. A nice change of pace. Second, my wife and I are dabbling our toes in the world of sailing. Being new to the whole business of sailing and boat maintenance and buying/selling boats, I found most of the topics discussed in the story interesting and informative. Very much in keeping with the point of view and comments I have heard from other serious boaters. I did find the author's 'learn as you go' approach to sailing a bit different. My wife and I, being new to sailing as I said, are taking as many sailing school classes as we can and spending as much time as we can on Galveston Bay before heading out on what I hope will be a similar cruise around the Caribbean as the one this author attempted. We plan to up our experience in small 'jumps' as we go, rather than jump in the deep in the pool first as this author did. In fact, when I first read the book I thought this approach to sailing was a bit unbelievable, but then I met two couples in one of our sailing classes who were chartering in the Caribbean with, what I consider to be, very little experience. So, the story seems much more believable to me now. It's still not our approach to sailing. I think too many things could go wrong. But I found the story to be fun and realistic and very readable. I think it does reflect a lot of peoples' approach to cruising. If you can only set aside a few years for cruising, it probably doesn't allow you much more than an "enlightened tourist's" approach to visiting the islands. But any attempt at visiting other people and other places and other cultures is better than nothing. I recommend you give this book a chance. If you approach the book and the characters in a less critical way, for who they are and what they have to say, I think you will enjoy the story.

A Sail of Two Idiots is a fun book that also provides tips and advice for sailors and inspiring sailors and cruisers - "lessons learned" by the author and her husband on their cruise throughout the eastern Caribbean. This is a perfect read for experienced sailors, weekend sailors, armchair sailors, dreamers, travelers, and anyone who suffers from wanderlust. The author writes in an easy, fun, and at times self-deprecating, style that made me laugh out loud. I like that this book was written by a woman--the author was the captain of their boat and the cruise was her idea--definitely a unique perspective. A non-fiction sailing book that is a page-turner? Yes! a non-fiction beach read? Yes!

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