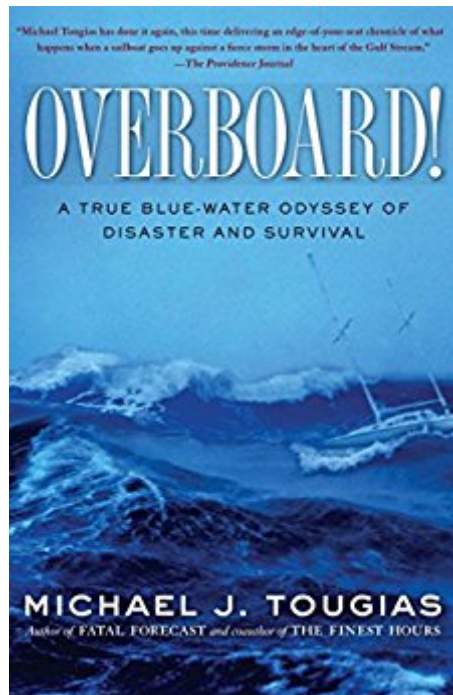


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Overboard!: A True Blue-water Odyssey Of Disaster And Survival



Synopsis

From masterful storyteller Michael J. Tougias comes a new, heart-stopping true-life tale of maritime disaster, his most thrilling and amazing story yet. In May 2005, Tom Tighe, captain of a forty-five-foot-long sailboat named the *Almeisan*, and his first mate, Loch Reidy, welcomed three new crewmembers for a five-day voyage from Connecticut across the blue waters of the Gulf Stream to sun-drenched Bermuda. The new crew included forty-six-year-old Kathy Gilchrist, seventy-year-old Ron Burd, and thirty-four-year-old Chris Ferrer. Although Tighe had made the trip forty-eight times, with Reidy accompanying him on twenty of those voyages, the rest of the crew had joined to learn more about offshore sailing. Four days into the voyage, an enormous storm struck, sweeping two of the crew into the towering sea. The remaining crewmembers managed to stay aboard the vessel as it was slowly torn apart by the rampaging ocean. *Overboard!* follows the simultaneous desperate struggles of both those still on the boat and those fighting for their lives in the sea. The Coast Guard, alerted to the *Almeisan*'s distress, rushed to the storm-tossed scene. Their ensuing search and rescue mission proved so spectacularly difficult and dangerous that it was later selected "from among thousands of incidents" as the Guard's search and rescue case of the year. Highly trained helicopter pilots and rescue swimmers alike found themselves in almost as much trouble as those trapped by the ferocious ocean. By turns tragic, thrilling, and deeply inspiring, *Overboard!* is a riveting, fast-paced story of death and survival at sea "amazing, unforgettable, and all true.

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Customer Reviews

OK, I'm half way through and I have to leave the house to go over and pick up my mom for Sunday dinner and I am stalling her as I cannot stop reading this book!! am a pretty sophisticated reader of non-fiction and I had only medium hopes for this book but it has far surpassed them. I will say that if you know nothing about the ocean or sailing and have zero understanding of the technical terms, you *might* be less enthralled than other readers, but even then, a graphic description of someone bobbling alone in the ocean being smashed by 40 foot seas is probably going to get your attention. :)I at first questioned the author's technique of describing the action in the present tense and I wondered if it would annoy me, but then I realized he has to jump back and forth in time so frequently he wants to you be able to distinguish between what is happening *right now* and what happened before. It actually works pretty well and keeps the action occurring at different times and places from getting confusing. My 16 year old son's life goal is become a Coast Guard rescue swimmer. Naturally this book terrifies me, but he is going to love it. :)Great read.

The author has created an excellent narrative. Nicely detailed and descriptive. I kept wishing I could see the movie! The true story contains some genuinely likeable 'characters' who demonstrated camaraderie and commitment. As a sailor myself, I cannot thank the US Coast Guard enough for their overall dedication! In particular, the rescue swimmers who risk everything on their rescues! An old boyfriend of mine had that job back in the 1990s and described one mission where he was seriously injured, but all aboard were rescued. Michael J. Tougias - keep writing!

This is a story of a sailing trip from Long Island to Bermuda that went terribly wrong when the forty foot sailboat was caught in a massive storm with 30 foot waves. Actually, two stories are told, that of the "At Ease" and that of the "Almeisan," both of which were caught in the same storm, although hundreds of miles apart. After reading this, you will have a renewed respect for the sea. The sea is never to be trifled with, or it will kill you. You will also have great respect for the rescue services of

the U.S. Coast Guard, and the people who risk their lives to save others. This is the first book by Michael J. Tougias that I have read. His style of writing is very lean. He does not get in the way of his story; he just tells the story in the least number of words with which it can be completely told. I appreciate a writer doesn't try to wow you with his writing.

An unbelievable true tale of disaster at sea, and its awful aftermath. A very well written book, and a definite page-turner.

I enjoyed reading this book. I am not a boater, and the book did a great job explaining things in enough detail, but I think not too much for those that have more knowledge. I thought he did a nice job including each of the people and their perspectives. I was particularly enthralled during the period with the men in the water, that was very well told, as if he was there himself.

This is a true story of 5 brave souls who left on a sailboat for a trip to Bermuda, and never made it. This is their story and what a story it is! They hit a whopper of a storm and when they did their story became a roller coaster of a tale. I must give kudos and give the Coast Guard, merchant ships and others their due for being heroes, also. This book is well-written and a page-turning story that never lets up. The reader becomes mesmerized with what happened. (no spoilers) I felt while reading it, that I was actually watching these events transpire before my eyes. I could "see" the waves, feel the fear, see the storm for myself. Very descriptive writing. I was frightened for these people. I wanted to keep reading to find out what they did next, or what the storm did to them as the minutes and hours ticked by. A great read!

I thought it was a good book, I don't read books too much but finished it pretty quick, so yes it was good, true stories are always better than fiction. The book arrived in great condition pretty much just costed me shipping. Gave the book to my dad. I'll see if I can get him to read it.. it's worth your time I can assure that.

Excellent, a book every sailor, bluewater or not, should read!

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