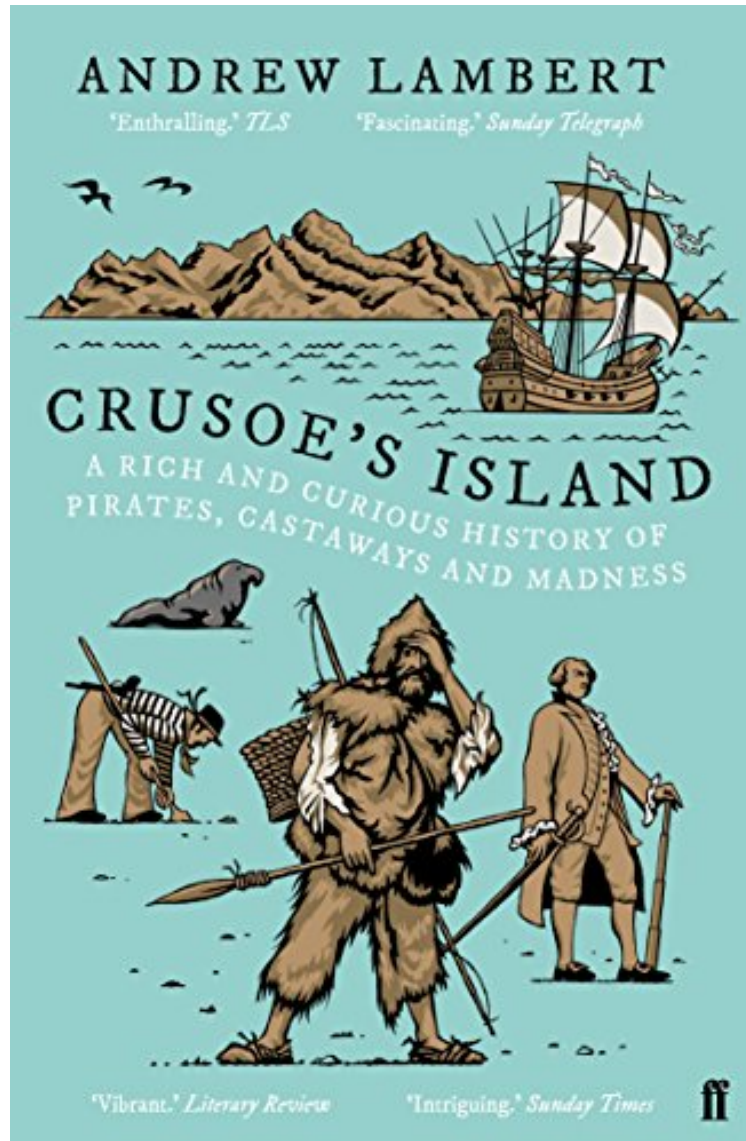


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Crusoe's Island: A Rich and Curious History of Pirates, Castaways and Madness

Andrew Lambert

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Andrew Lambert : Crusoe's Island: A Rich and Curious History of Pirates, Castaways and Madness before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crusoe's Island: A Rich and Curious History of Pirates, Castaways and Madness:

Acclaimed historian Andrew Lambert uncovers the fascinating truth about a faraway place that still haunts our imagination and culture: the island of Robinson Crusoe in the South Pacific Ocean. Daniel Defoe's enduring novel Robinson Crusoe famously followed the adventures of a shipwrecked sailor. Yet the complex reality is more surprising, more colorful and considerably darker. Drawing on voyage accounts, journal entries, maps, and illustrations, Lambert brings to life the voices of the visiting sailors, scientists, writers, and artists. There are the early encounters of the 1500s, the perilous journeys of the eighteenth-century explorers, the naval conflicts of the First World War and the environmental concerns of more recent years. Crusoe's Island reveals that the British relationship with this distant, tiny island extends far beyond a single book. This true history helps us to understand why the British, still a naval power but no longer a great maritime empire, are not yet ready to give up on the ocean -- or on tiny specks of land at the far ends of the earth.

"Not merely a rip-roaring account of castaways and desert islands ... This is a fascinating, argumentative book that discovers a world in a tiny island." - Ben Wilson, Sunday Telegraph "[An] intriguing, wide-ranging book." - Sunday Times (UK) About the Author Andrew Lambert is Professor of Naval History at King's College, London. His highly successful history of the British Navy, War at Sea, was broadcast on BBC Two.