



At the Mercy of the Sea: The True Story of Three Sailors in a Caribbean Hurricane

John Kretschmer

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“The tale of Carl Wake and the hurricane that was waiting for him goes straight to the heart of the greatest sea stories: they are not about man against the sea, but man against himself. John Kretschmer’s book is as perfectly shaped and flawlessly written as such a story can be. In addition to being the best depiction I have ever read of what it is like to be inside a hurricane at sea, *At the Mercy of the Sea* is as moving a story of a man’s failure and redemption as can be found anywhere in the literature of the sea. This book is surely destined to become a classic.”—Peter Nichols, author of *Sea Change* and *A Voyage for Madmen*

“John Kretschmer has transformed this story of three men on a collision course with a hurricane into a modern seafaring classic.”—Peter Nielsen, editor of *SAIL* magazine

“With expert analysis and taut writing, he draws readers into that mad storm. You can’t turn away. You keep reading until it breaks your heart.”—Fred Grimm, columnist for the *Miami Herald*

“Once begun, his vivid and powerful narrative is impossible to put down.”—Derek Lundy, author of *Godforsaken Sea* and *The Way of a Ship*

“I felt I knew Carl Wake, because John Kretschmer found in him an archetype—an aging sailor with an age-old dream.”—Jim Carrier, transatlantic sailor and author of *The Ship and the Storm: Hurricane Mitch and the Loss of the Fantome*

“A remarkable book, impossible to put down.”—Herb McCormick, sailing journalist

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