



To the Edge of the World

By Michele Torrey

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ORPHANED BY THE plague and penniless, Mateo must find his way in the world. By chance he is made a cabin boy on the celebrated voyage of Captain-General Ferdinand Magellan. The destination is secret, but the crew whispers that Magellan will be the first to sail east to the Spice Islands by going *west*—and everyone shall return with untold riches.

At sea, Mateo discovers the meaning of friendship, loyalty, and hard work, as well as the delight of first love. But when the ocean rages and brother turns against brother, both Mateo and Magellan are in danger—and it's not clear if *anyone* will survive. . . .

“Torrey deftly maintains the taut thread of adventure that, along with the cast of memorable characters, keep the pages turning.”—*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

“This deserves to be in the hands of every reader who loves history and adventure.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

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Editorial Review

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Gr. 5-8. In this fast-paced sea-faring adventure, a fictional orphan, Mateo, joins Magellan as a cabin boy on the voyage that pioneered the Straits of Magellan and completed the first trip around the world. The plot follows the dramatic historic journey, complete with discoveries, mutinies, diseases, near-starvation, and encounters with indigenous peoples. During the course of three years, Mateo grows up with the close guidance of Magellan. Such a warm friendship between captain and cabin boy may not seem realistic, but it provides a vantage point for Mateo to witness historic events and hear Magellan's own musings. Mateo's friendship with a slightly older, rebellious sailor emphasizes the intimacy of life on board ship, and the reckless friend provides a contrast to Mateo's growing thoughtfulness. Karen Hesse's *Stowaway* (2000), which also creates a cabin boy to observe a momentous voyage, offers the sort of thorough back matter that would have enhanced this, but there's solid page-turning excitement for fans of sea stories and also some fascinating history here. *Kathleen Odean*

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Review

"Deserves to be in the hands of every reader who loves history and adventure." -- *Kirkus Reviews, December 15, 2002*

From the Inside Flap

Orphaned by the plague, penniless, and without friends, Mateo must find his way in the world. What he discovers is the adventure of a lifetime. Soon Mateo is at sea, a cabin boy on the celebrated voyage of Captain-General Ferdinand Magellan. The destination is secret, but the crew whispers that Magellan will be the first to sail east to the Spice Islands by going *west*?and everyone shall return with untold riches.

Life at sea is everything Mateo expected?and more. He discovers the meaning of friendship, loyalty, and hard work, as well as the delight of first love. But when the sea rages and brother turns against brother, both Mateo and Magellan are in danger?and it's not clear if anyone will survive. . . .

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Matthew Coleman:

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