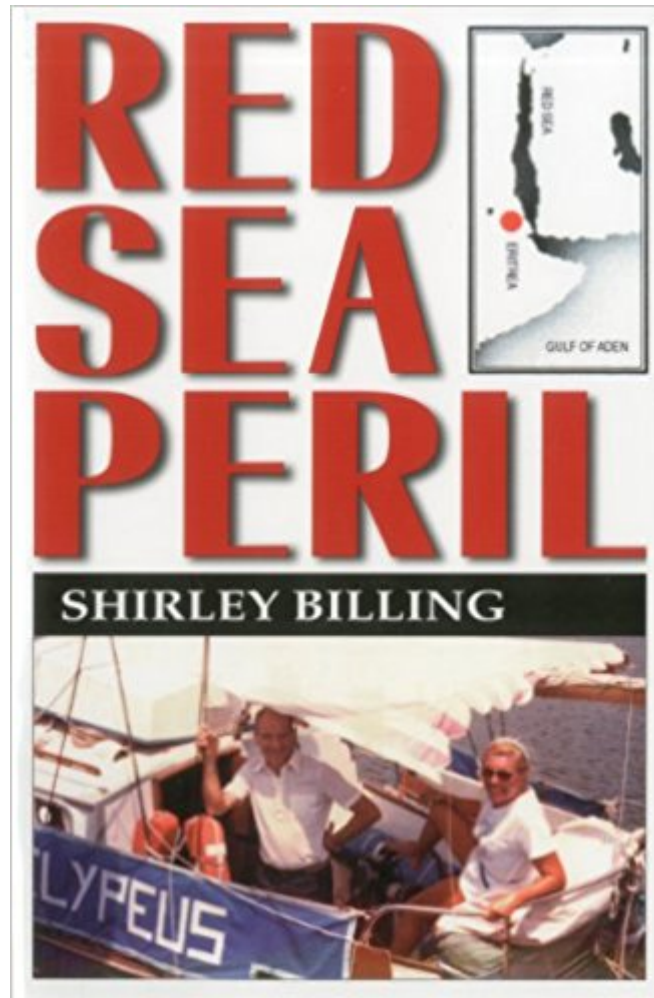




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Red Sea Peril



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Synopsis

Red Sea Peril records in extraordinary detail the dramatic events of an episode which grabbed headlines across the world. Written from a highly personal perspective, Red Sea Peril is a compelling tale for all who go to sea in foreign waters. On March 19, 1996, exactly on the thirteenth anniversary of their departure from St. Katharine's Dock, London, to sail around the world, Peter and Shirley Billing were taken at gunpoint from their yacht in the Red Sea. Fortunately they were keeping a regular radio schedule with other voyagers so their disappearance from the radio waves was immediately noticed. Accused of spying, the Billings protested their innocence at every turn, yet it was the efforts made on their behalf by fellow sailors, friends and relatives in England, press coverage and eventual assistance from British authorities that achieved their release. It was a month before they were eventually returned to their yacht and continued their circumnavigation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Billing, a British-born yachting journalist, and her husband have been sailing around the world for the past 15 years in their yacht, Clypeus. They have become part of the sailing community, staying in regular radio communication with other travelers, meeting in various ports, and sharing experiences with one another. In mid-March 1996, after the Billings anchored off the Eritrean coast, they were taken at gunpoint from their yacht. They remained in Eritrean custody for one month until pressure from their family in England, journalists, and their sailing friends enabled their release. This account describes the months that led up to their misadventure, the confusion of their arrest and confinement, and the continuation of their travels afterward. It is a story of two people who believed

in fair play and following the rules. When war erupted and they became victims of a confused set of circumstances, their connections with others sustained and eventually saved them. The authors' tone is matter-of-fact, with a lot of detail and little sense of emotion. Recommended for larger public libraries. Alison Hopkins, Brantford P.L., ON Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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I liked the story line and the authors descriptions of the events surrounding her harrowing experience sailing up the red sea.

I have really enjoyed reading Red Sea Peril. I found I could imagine Shirley and Peter, so different, and so complementary at the same time. I liked the style, the sentences are short, precise, with just enough humor. In fact it was very pleasant to read. The chapters are just long enough and the flashbacks permitted the reader to set the situation of a sailor's life and the choices you have to make. BUT I would like to have followed with small charts at the beginning of each chapter (what my own editor has asked me to do) with points where you were and where you go. Sailors like to see this. However, I appreciated very much all the photographs, very well situated. I like very much too the "introspectives" and would have liked even more of them. I enjoyed too the poetry, it rings so "true" and I felt that very much. Even in drama I was aware of Shirley's "joie to vivre". Finally you have given me a taste and I wish to read more of your adventures because this book merits it. I hope to read the next book soon. Dr. Marie-Andre Champagne MD. physician and writer (3 books

published) of Sailboat 'Andante ma non troppo' - sailed from Montreal to Turkey during 10 years. crossing ATLantic in '95.

Having spent my life at sea on Tugs, Ships, Barges & every type of pleasure craft I can get hold of, I have been traveling the world in sweet innocence! To read about such an obviously honest & gentle couple, who would do anything to help anyone they met, who might like help, taken prisoner in this way, seems incredible. I am so glad they were able to gain their freedom & let us read about their ordeal & their friends, relatives & captors. A gripping read, that shows a couple that are so definitely made for one another. Therefore a read with everything:- Travel, Drama, Adventure, Gentleness, Love, Compassion..... What else can a good book have! I LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT ONE!

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