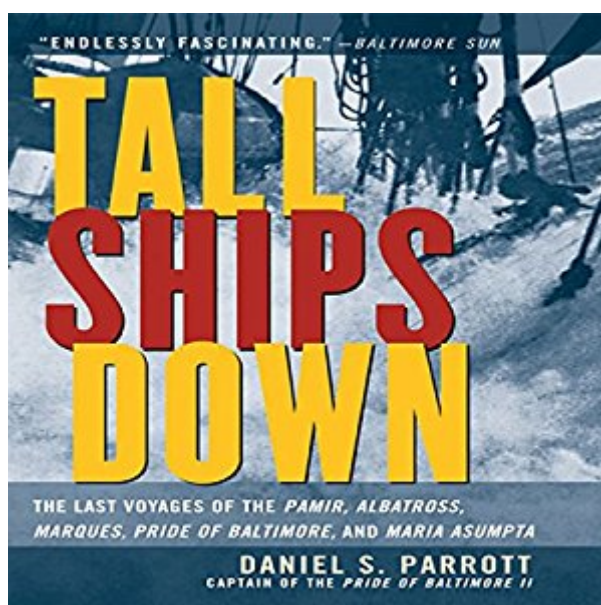


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# Tall Ships Down



## Synopsis

For all its romance, the tall-ship renaissance has a tragic side. Working from official documents, survivor and expert interviews, and his own tall-ship experience, Parrott re-creates the losses of five sail-training vessels: the 316-foot Pamir (1957), 117-foot Albatross (1961), 117-foot Marques (1984), 137-foot Pride of Baltimore (1986), and 125-foot Maria Asumpta (1995). He vividly re-creates each final voyage and then explores the roles played by ship stability, structural integrity, weather, human error, and standards of risk in tragedies at sea.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 4 hours and 47 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships > Repair & Maintenance

## Customer Reviews

This book is an outstanding study of five sail training vessel accidents. It is not only interesting, but full of important lessons for all sailors, particularly for professional sailors of traditional vessels. Captain Parrott has done the sailing world a great service by analysing these tragedies, not with romance or melodrama, but with compassion and empathy. As a seasoned professional himself, he investigates without being judgemental, and provides us with information we can use to prevent future accidents.

This book is a great read for both professional mariners and armchair sailors alike. Professionals will appreciate the insight into these disasters and their causes, while the armchair sailor will find the sea stories fascinating enough to keep their interest. The author's writing style is easy to read, and his research is fairly extensive. All in all an outstanding book that deserves a place in any nautical library.

Readers seeking spine-tingling narratives of sea disasters will be disappointed with *Tall Ships Down*, because this brilliant book is instead a penetrating analysis of the circumstances of loss of several traditional sail ships in recent times. In five lucid essays, the author uses each sinking to illuminate the intersection of changes in nautical technological traditions, situational decision-making, and construction of sailing heritage. Beyond sailors or maritime buffs, this superbly written work should capture anyone interested in the sociology of technological change. The author is thoughtful and engaging, with his experience as captain of large traditional sail ships only one source of the book's extraordinary insights. *Tall Ships Down* will take its place as a classic alongside technology and culture studies such as Hilton's *Eastland: Legacy of the Titanic*. I'd consider it a shame if the author does not give us next a full-length treatment of the sinking of the *Pamir*, or a biography of Alan Villiers.

This book is incredible, I bought it looking for details on one specific ship, and got so much more out of it than I expected that I was very surprised, and have added it to my "Best Of" Bookcase. It's well worth the read and is very well detailed.

This is a great book. I've been involved in the tall ship community from the business development side of things and this book is invaluable for anyone interested in tall ship ventures. If you're a tall ships fan or a sailor, this book is also very good. As a sailor, I've seen first hand how things can go instantly from zero to chaos. Reading these examples of predictable, preventable accidents was an eye opener and a useful primer. Finally, if you like true sea stories, this is a book for you.

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