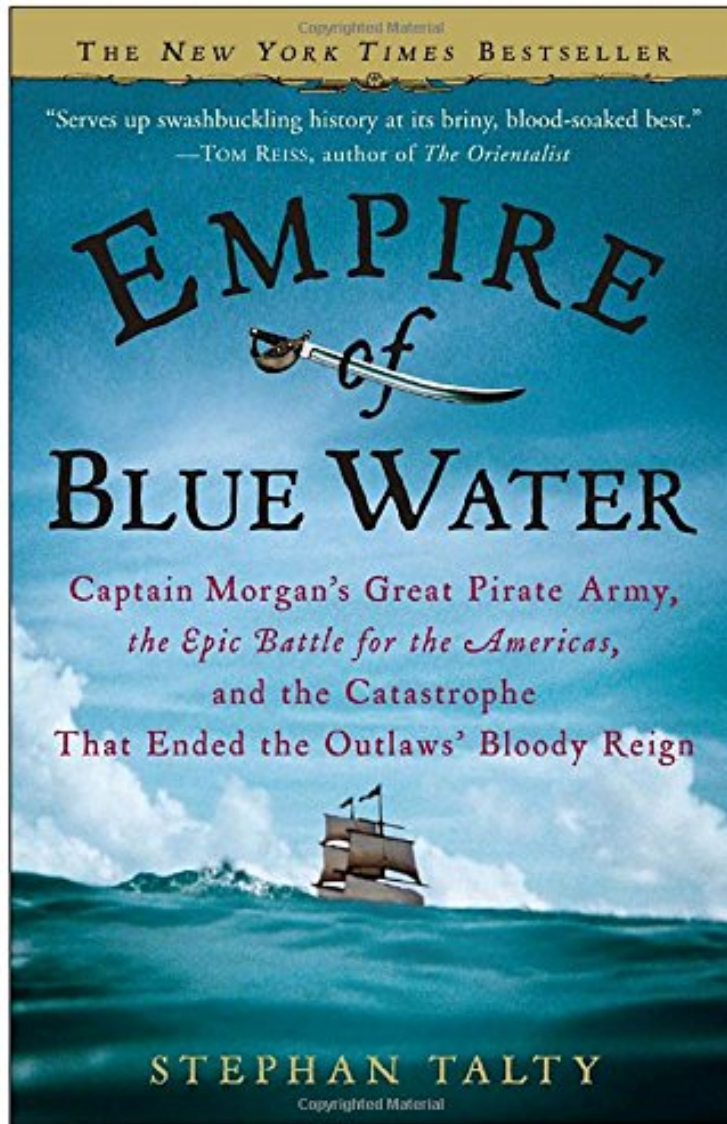


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Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas, and the Catastrophe That Ended the Outlaws' Bloody Reign

Stephan Talty

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Stephan Talty : Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas, and the Catastrophe That Ended the Outlaws' Bloody Reign before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it

would be worth my time, and all praised *Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas, and the Catastrophe That Ended the Outlaws' Bloody Reign*:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ... the Caribbean for 3 weeks in March and always love to read the history of where I travel
By Alice E. Gepp
I'll be in the Caribbean for 3 weeks in March and always love to read the history of where I travel ... I have enjoyed reading about Captain Morgan and the barbaric tortures and the exploits of pirates. I keep looking up my Google Maps of the Caribbean to find out where Captain Morgan sailed. Unbelievable how brave and daring he was and how many pirates he led at one time. He ordered 500 head of cattle to be slaughtered and put on his ships for one mission. Wow - lot of food for a lot of pirates.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice Read
By Customer
This is a good read that takes little known background of the Caribbean Pirates and their exploits and turns it into an interesting novel style type story. Easy reading and you will learn things you did not know about these bands of pirates.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Hard to put down.
By Jake
Despite some grammatical errors in the first few chapters, I still have to give this book 5 stars. For anyone who is a history buff, the author has no problem sucking you in making this book extremely difficult to put down. I recommend it to anyone who enjoys history, particularly pirate history and 17th century Caribbean history. All in all, a great read.

A May 2007 Book Sense Pick
Taltys vigorous history of seventeenth-century pirates of the Caribbean will sate even fickle Jack Sparrow fans. . . . A pleasure to read from bow to stern.
Entertainment Weekly
The passion and violence of the age of exploration and empire come to vivid life in this story of the legendary pirate who took on the greatest military power on earth with a ragtag bunch of renegades. Awash with bloody battles, political intrigues, natural disaster, and a cast of characters more compelling, bizarre, and memorable than any found in a Hollywood swashbuckler, *Empire of Blue Water* brilliantly re-creates the life and times of Henry Morgan and the real pirates of the Caribbean.

From Publishers Weekly
Journalist Talty (Mulatto America) entertainingly chronicles the life of legendary privateer Capt. Henry Morgan and his crucial role in challenging Spain's hegemony in the New World in this informative popular history. Seeking his fortune, Welshman Morgan arrived in the Caribbean just as British King Charles II decided to challenge Spain by using pirates "as a stick with which to beat [them]." Morgan accepted a privateer's commission from the British in effect, a license to steal and set out in 1661 to make his fortune. Smart and charismatic, Morgan quickly rose to the rank of captain and became "fabulously rich." His attack on the Spanish stronghold at Portobelo "showed the world that the empire was vulnerable," and his raid on the city of Panama "the greatest raid in the history of buccaneering" forced "the Spanish to renounce their exclusive rights to the New World." Charles II knighted Morgan and appointed him deputy governor of Jamaica, a position that tasked him "the greatest of the buccaneers" with exterminating piracy. Morgan died of the effects of alcohol abuse in 1688 at 53. Talty strips away the legend to recreate a pivotal era in this accessible portrait of the pirates of the Caribbean. (Apr.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
Before he became rum, Cap'n Morgan humbled the Spanish Empire. Part swashbuckling pirate, part aristocratic wannabe Henry Morgan blended his desire for adventure and wealth into an innovative military approach. English greed and rugged individualism could defeat Spanish monarchical bureaucracy. Talty illustrates the lures that drew free spirits from the Old World and into the new. Port Royal, Jamaica, serving as the seventeenth-century's sin city, offered all the vices a young rogue craved, plus the pirate excursions to fund his debaucheries. Talty's well-researched account weaves together myriad political and financial interests in the New World. From the young rogue in search of wealth and a good time to the British monarchy looking for a cheap way to defeat the Spanish (and finding that champion in the young pirate), the pirate's ferocity and depravity became known and feared. Morgan succeeded, where most could not, in straddling dual roles. He stood as the vital force in British military cunning and success, and did so as a feared yet respected pirate. Blair Parsons
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Taltys vigorous history of seventeenth-century pirates of the Caribbean will sate even fickle Jack Sparrow fans. . . . A pleasure to read from bow to stern.
Entertainment Weekly
A swashbuckling adventure . . . [the] characters leap to life.
New York Times
Book A ripping yarn, worthy of its gaudy subject.
Dallas Morning News
A sparkling and engrossing adventure narrative.
Boston Phoenix
Fresh insight into pirates dens of old . . . Well-researched nonfiction that reads like a novel.
Washington Times
Swashbuckling history at its bloody, blood-soaked best, and a mirror to our own times.
Tom Reiss, author of *The Orientalist*
Morgan proves an irresistible hero. A thrilling and fascinating adventure.
Caroline Alexander, author of *The Endurance* and *The Bounty*
Rollicking . . . with style and energy Talty tells a tale of boundless wickedness.
William M. Fowler, author of *Empires at War*
Reeking of authentic blood and thunder, and as richly detailed as a work of fiction, *Empire of Blue Water* dramatically evokes the rough-and-tumble age when pirates owned the seas. In Stephan Taltys hands, the brilliant Captain Morgan, wicked and cutthroat though he was, proves an irresistible hero. A thrilling and fascinating adventure.
Caroline Alexander, author of *The Endurance* and *The Bounty*
Stephan Taltys new book serves up swashbuckling history at its briny, blood-soaked best, with enough violence and passion to keep the pages flying

by. But its not only blood and swash: Empire of Blue Water is also a mirror to our own times, showing that attempting globalization against a backdrop of the clash of civilizations is nothing new, and that religious violence is often a thinly veiled cover for greed and personal ambition. Talty's portrait of the legendary privateer Henry Morgan is a marvelous study in contradictions a man of astounding heroism, brilliance, compassion, and charm, who was also capable of the greatest betrayal. Tom Reiss, author of The Orientalist A wickedly entertaining tale of pirates and the Caribbean seas they once ruled like kings. Epic sea battles, daring adventures, rich history, great villains and heroes alike its a treasure. Neal Bascomb, author of The Perfect Mile and Higher In a riveting history that reads like the best novels, Stephan Talty stylishly extricates the pirates of the Caribbean from the imprecise caricature that so often consumes them. Layer by fascinating layer, Talty peels away the eye patch and the shiver-me-timbers brogue to reveal the raucous, complex and authentic buccaneers of the Brethren of the Coast. . . . Storytelling and history to be savored. Buddy Levy, author of American Legend: The Real-Life Adventures of David Crockett Engrossing . . . a swashbuckling tale of how the history of the Americas was shaped by a small group of daring brigands. Matthew Brzezinski, author of Casino Moscow A fascinating look inside [a] glamorous and gritty world. Les Standiford, author of Last Train to Paradise Exceptionally well-told . . . an exhilarating adventure in reading. Kerry A. Trask, author of Black Hawk From the Hardcover edition.