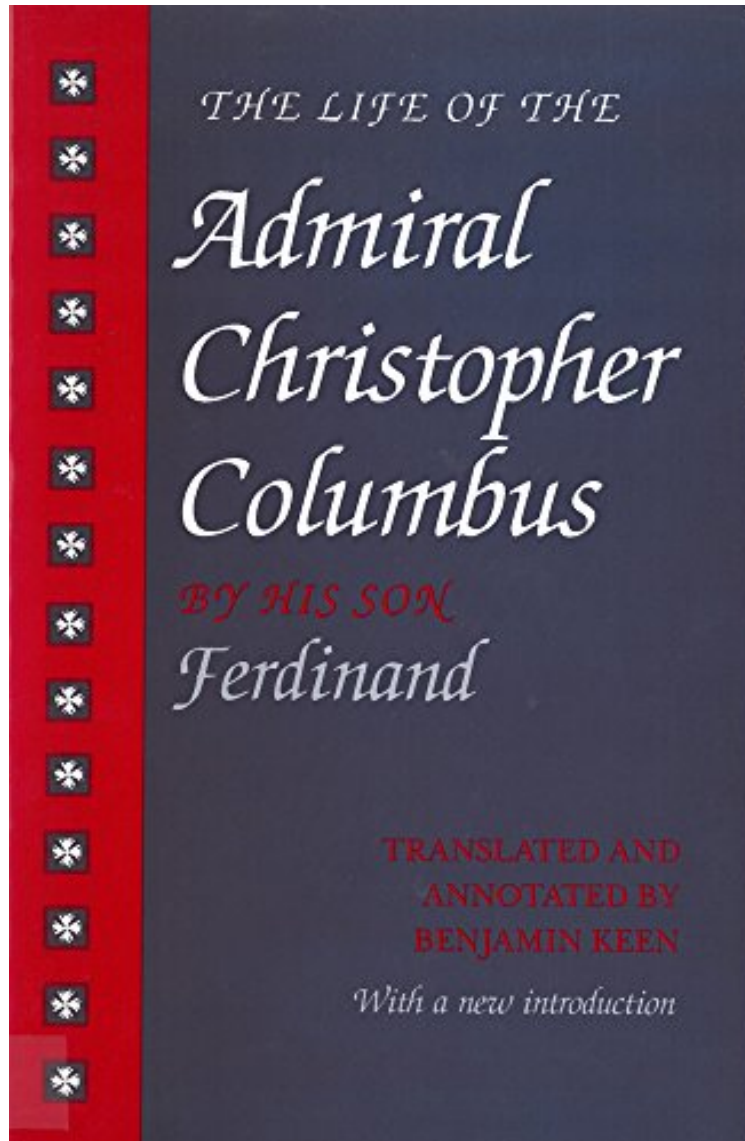


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## The Life of the Admiral Christopher Columbus: by his son Ferdinand

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**From Brand: Rutgers University Press : The Life of the Admiral Christopher Columbus: by his son Ferdinand** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Life of the Admiral Christopher Columbus: by his son Ferdinand:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not exactly what they taught you in school  
By Barry Cunningham  
Fascinating in how it differs from the mythical version I was fed in school 50+ years ago. Nobody believed the world was flat. Columbus believed that the world was much smaller than it really is, which made the idea of sailing west to the East plausible. Many of the bits that we conveniently forget on October 12, Ferdinand treats in some detail: the rapacity, greed, stupidity, and cruelty of the Spanish inflicted on the local population is near unfathomable. Still, this is written by his son, years after his death, so it is a bit of a hagiography. Ferdinand leaves out or glosses over embarrassing details, like Columbus's early belief that Cuba was Japan or the Asian mainland. Interesting to see what his son said in the 16th century; vastly different from the Washington Irvingified take in the mid-20th.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Admiral Christopher Columbus  
By Wolde Hyman  
One could not be in a better position to explain about the Admiral Christopher Columbus than his son. Through this book we understand that Columbus did not appear out of thin air but was a person inflamed with a passion for adventure.  
5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. 500 followed ---- he changed the world - better or worse --- by his visionary discovery  
By Frank G. Risalvato  
This is the type of must-read literature they should make mandatory in all High School or college classes. Interpreted in easy-to-understand English with the original Spanish script nearby so you can see if the interpreter deviated. Very accurate (I read Spanish as well) interpretation of a life's long collection of logs, notes, letters by Columbus' son Fernando who accompanied him on a later voyage. This is a page turner. You can not stop reading. From Columbus' first voyage with 3 boats and a few hundred men, to his second with over 1,000 men, and his third where a flotilla of 2,500 followed ---- he changed the world - better or worse --- by his visionary discovery, bravery, ego and confidence. Sure there was a negative side - but that was mainly the fault of wealth-seeking followers who were unruly and out for personal gain. Columbus himself always espoused fairest treatment of indigenous peoples.

"The cornerstone of the history of the American continent." --Washington Irving  
This revised edition (originally published in 1959) of the famous biography of Columbus by his son Ferdinand was published to coincide with the Columbus quincentenary celebrations. Benjamin Keen's introduction traces the changing assessments of Columbus and his Discovery over almost five centuries, as reflected in the writings of historians, other social scientists, novelists, and poets, and shows how these assessments were influenced by varying political, social, and intellectual conditions. Keen has also revised his translation and notes to reflect new information and viewpoints. Ferdinand's book is a moving and personal document. Provoked in part by the Spanish Crown's attempts to diminish Columbus's role as discoverer, it reveals the restrained emotions of a loving son jealous of his father's honor. Ferdinand had access to all of his father's papers. At the age of thirteen, he accompanied Columbus on the last voyage and participated in many of the events he relates here. The narrative has the irresistible excitement of an adventure story: shipwreck, storms, and battles with mutineers or Indians. Ferdinand's imaginative insight into the many-faceted personality of the discoverer and his artistry with words make this biography, as Henry Vignaud has said, "the most important of our sources of information on the life of the discoverer of America." Benjamin Keen is Professor Emeritus of Latin American history at Northern Illinois University. He is the author of *The Aztec Image in Western Thought* (Rutgers University Press) and many other books.

Language Notes  
Text: English, Italian (translation)  
From the Back Cover  
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