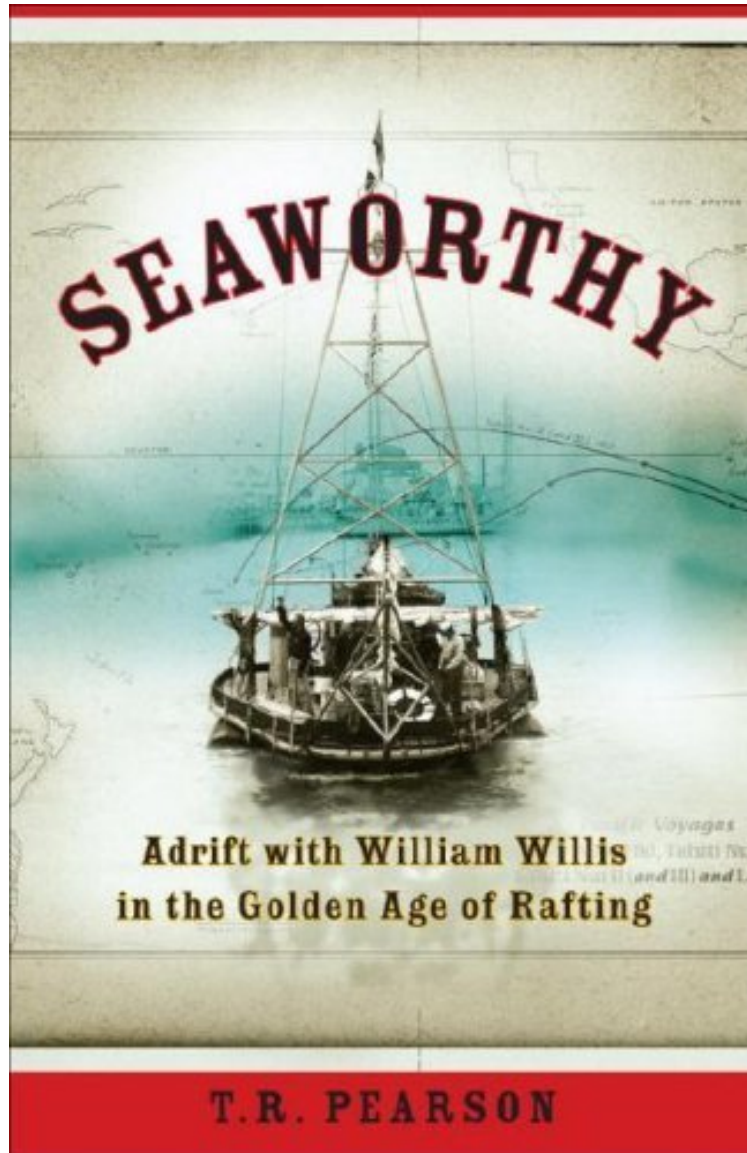


(Mobile ebook) Seaworthy: Adrift with William Willis in the Golden Age of Rafting

Seaworthy: Adrift with William Willis in the Golden Age of Rafting

Von T. R. Pearson

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Von T. R. Pearson : Seaworthy: Adrift with William Willis in the Golden Age of Rafting before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Seaworthy: Adrift with William Willis in the Golden Age of Rafting:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Crazy adventures.Von EkaterinaIt's great book. Previously I've read two books of William Willis (soviet editions), this book

by T.R. Pearson gives more details on Willis's life and other solo voyages. It was a bit difficult to get into some terms of rafts constructions as I don't have any experience with that. At some point you think William Willis was a bit crazy, but I admire his courage.

Kurzbeschreibung Welcome to the daring, thrilling, and downright strange adventures of William Willis, one of the worlds original extreme sportsmen. Driven by an unfettered appetite for personal challenge and a yen for the path of most resistance, Willis mounted a single-handed and wholly unlikely rescue in the jungles of French Guiana and then twice crossed the broad Pacific on rafts of his own design, with only housecats and a parrot for companionship. His first voyage, atop a ten-ton balsa monstrosity, was undertaken in 1954 when Willis was sixty. His second raft, having crossed eleven thousand miles from Peru, found the north shore of Australia shortly after Willis's seventieth birthday. A marvel of vigor and fitness, William Willis was a connoisseur of ordeal, all but orchestrating short rations, shipwreck conditions, and crushing solitude on his trans-Pacific voyages. He'd been inspired by Kon-Tiki, Thor Heyerdahl's bid to prove that a primitive raft could negotiate the open ocean. Willis's trips confirmed that a primitive man could as well. Willis survived on rye flour and seawater, sang to keep his spirits up, communicated with his wife via telepathy, suffered from bouts of temporary blindness, and eased the intermittent pain of a double hernia by looping a halyard around his ankles and dangling upside-down from his mast. Rich with vivid detail and wry humor, *Seaworthy* is the story of a sailor you've probably never heard of but need to know. In an age when countless rafts were adrift on the waters of the world, their crews out to shore up one theory of ethno-migration or tear down another, Willis's challenges remained refreshingly personal. His methods were eccentric, his accomplishments little short of remarkable. Don't miss the chance to meet this singular monk of the sea. From the Hardcover edition. From Booklist In 1954, when William Willis was age 60, he left his wife in New York and sailed from Peru across the Pacific Ocean on a balsa-wood raft he had constructed. On board were a cat named Meekie, a parrot named Eekie, and some fresh water and food. After nearly four months, he landed in American Samoa, more than 4,000 miles west of Peru, a 115-day journey. His radar reflector was a scrap of planking wrapped in aluminum foil, his chronometer was a balky pocket watch, and his distress flag was a scarlet sweater. Willis was menaced by storms, sang sea chanteys, was followed by a brown shark, and suffered from eyestrain and a hernia. He rode out severe weather by nailing himself under a canvas tarp. Pearson chronicles Willis' early life as well as this wondrous voyage, and he discusses other rafting trips, including Thor Heyerdahl's Kon-Tiki expedition. For anyone interested in sea adventures. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved. Pressestimmen *Seaworthy* is an impressive achievement, powerful in drama and rich in detail in describing the rafting career of William Willis, a solitary sailor on the vast Pacific committed to proving himself under the most forbidding circumstances possible. His exploits were sometimes heartrending, sometimes ludicrous, and sometimes absurd, but Pearson's narrative, like his prose, never overreaches, never abandons a cool objectivity in relating incidents of heroism no less than those of a vainglorious eccentricity or appalling stupidity. Unfailingly wise, often funny, and always penetrating, *Seaworthy* is no less entertaining and always enjoyable. W. T. Tyler, author of *The Man Who Lost the War* and *The Consuls Wife*