



# My Old Man and the Sea

By DANIEL HAYS DAVID HAYS

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## My Old Man and the Sea By DANIEL HAYS DAVID HAYS

Some fathers and sons go fishing together. Some play ball. David Hays and Daniel Hays sailed 17,000 miles through the world's most feared and fabled waters in a little boat they built together. This is their story.

Alone with nothing but the mammoth waves of the Southern Ocean, the unceasing wind, a compass, a sextant and a pet cat, they voyage down the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, past the Galapagos Islands, beyond Easter Island and around their destination--Cape Horn. Father and son narrate in alternating fashion, their voices weaving together an engrossing story of travel, exploration and difficult, dangerous sailing.

But more than a tale of adventure, this is a touching account of a father and son's rite of passage as they assess their complex and evolving relationship. Daniel, out of college and unsure of what he wants in his life, sees his father getting older, more forgetful. David deals with unresolved issues he had with his own father, fearful that he'll make the same mistakes with his son, yet frustrated that Daniel treats him like an old man.

Moving, often hilarious, often poignant, *My Old Man and the Sea* is a rich and profound chronicle of their voyage of discovery. Every reader will identify with this uplifting story of a father and son who go down to the sea and find each other.

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## My Old Man and the Sea By DANIEL HAYS DAVID HAYS Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Amazon.com Review**

David and Daniel Hays, father and son, designed and built a small boat together, then set out to sail it around the tip of South America, a journey that David had dreamed of ever since childhood. Along the way they fought and swore and sweated and shared triumphs large and small.

### **From Publishers Weekly**

As a child, David Hays regarded sailing around Cape Horn as the ultimate adventure. Now, in middle age, he makes the voyage with his 24-year-old son, hoping to regain a youthful perspective on life. Daniel, just out of college, wanted time to think about commitment to a career. Together, they built a 25-foot sloop, Sparrow, and set out across the Caribbean, navigating by compass and sextant. Sparrow carried neither motor nor radar, only a two-way, short-range radio. Father and son take turns giving their accounts of the 17,000-mile voyage. Their course was through the Panama Canal, then south by way of the Galapagos and Easter Islands. On day 179, they passed the Horn, having made 230 miles in 36 hours without being able to search the sky for sights because of the weather; in return for that feat of navigation, Dan became the captain. It is an engaging adventure, and a remarkable story of a father-son relationship. First serial to Sailing magazine; author tour.

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### **From School Library Journal**

YA?Anyone who loves adventure and journeys to faraway places will surely enjoy this exciting account of a father and son who set sail in their 25-foot boat for a voyage around Cape Horn, site of "engulfed and shattered" ships. This engrossing and entertaining journal, alternating between the two men, is a chronicle of happenings on board and at ports-of-call along the way. There are nautical details of interest to would-be and skilled mariners alike; some historical narrative about experiences of earlier voyagers around the dreaded Horn, and, in a lighter vein, numerous descriptions of the antics of Tiger, the beloved cat and companion on the voyage. This is also a story of the loving but often difficult relationship between a father and his grown son, the better sailor of the two. One very much admires the younger man's courage and determination, as on the return leg of the journey, he undertakes to sail the boat home entirely alone. This fascinating book about a dangerous venture should appeal to YAs and perhaps inspire them to set some challenging goals themselves.?Helen Lazar, Kings Park Library, Burke, VA

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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Mildred Parker:**

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**Theresa Wilkins:**

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**Daniel Kirk:**

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**Rosalva Nichols:**

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