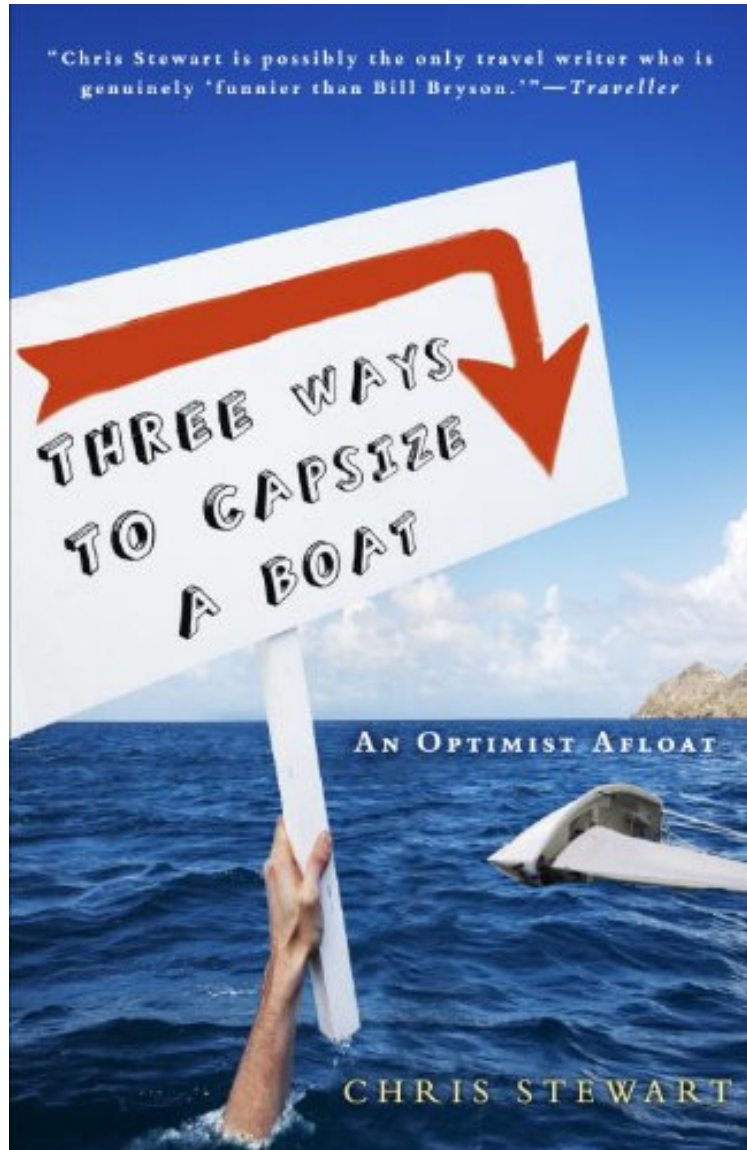


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Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat

Chris Stewart

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Chris Stewart : Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun!By Kindle CustomerThis was just a delightful book, which brought back vivid memories of messing about in a tiny sailboat in my youth. Mr. Stewart and company embarked on some ambitious voyages, particularly given his level of boating expertise. His love for the experience shines through, and his enthusiasm causes me to at least briefly consider sailing again.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Funny, true and wonderful.By Diane JaegerHe goes off on an adventure with little knowledge but a lot of

enthusiasm. His sense of humor is keen and his writing kept me wanting to keep the pages turning. I cannot wait to read more of his works. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very unpretentious sailorBy BergeekGreat little book for sailors, a quick easy read.

Three Ways to Capsize a Boat is travel writing at its best, crackling with Chris Stewart's zest for life, irresistible humor, and unerring lack of foresight. Chris Stewart had a long and eclectic list of jobs. From some of the most glamorous careers--he was original drummer in Genesis--to the more offbeat--a sheep shearer and circus performer--he had done it all...or almost all. So when he is offered the chance to captain a sailboat in the Greek islands one summer, something he had never done before, he jumped at the chance, even though he'd never actually sailed before. So begins the hilarious and wild adventures of Three Ways to Capsize a Boat. From setting the boat on fire not once, but several times in the Aegean Sea to his not-so-grand arrival in Spetses to meet the owners of the boat (who says it isn't graceful to plow into the docks as a means of coming to a stop?), Stewart quickly catches the sailing bug. By the end of the summer, as he is facing the dreary prospect of going back to sheep shearing, he jumps at the chance to be part of a crew to follow Viking Leif Eriksson's historic journey across the Atlantic Ocean. From coming to terms with the long, cold nights at sea and unchanging cuisine to battling intense seasickness and managing to go to the bathroom during a massive storm (a lot harder than you'd think!), Stewart keeps his good humor, but learns, in the end, that perhaps the best things in life are worth coming ashore for.

From Booklist*Starred * Fans of rock trivia might know the author as one of the founders of the band Genesis. He was its first drummer, but by his own admission, he wasn't very good, and they turfed him out before they made it big. Luckily, Stewart had other skills, among them a wicked good ability to tell stories. In this highly entertaining memoir, set in the early 1980s, the author was offered the opportunity to skipper a yacht in the Greek Islands. Never one to let a little thing like a complete and total lack of sailing ability stand in his way, he jumped at the chance. The book is kind of the reversal of the fish-out-of-water story (a mammal-into-water tale, perhaps?), and it's full of comic elements: finding the yacht in utter disrepair, working with two boat hands named Nikos, setting the boat on fire, that kind of thing. Despite his less-than-stellar performance as a yacht captain, Stewart followed his Greek Islands adventure by signing on with a cross-Atlantic re-creation of Leif Eriksson's original route to Vinland--all right, he didn't exactly know what or where Vinland was, but it sounded like it might be fun. So is the book: Stewart really is a quite gifted writer, gleefully poking fun at himself and thoroughly entertaining the reader. --David Pitt "Fans of rock trivia might know the author as one of the founders of the band Genesis. He was its first drummer, but by his own admission, he wasn't very good, and they turfed him out before they made it big. Luckily, Stewart had other skills, among them a wicked good ability to tell stories. In this highly entertaining memoir, set in the early 1980s, the author was offered the opportunity to skipper a yacht in the Greek Islands. Never one to let a little thing like a complete and total lack of sailing ability stand in his way, he jumped at the chance. The book is kind of the reversal of the fish-out-of-water story (a mammal-into-water tale, perhaps?), and it's full of comic elements: finding the yacht in utter disrepair, working with two boat hands named Nikos, setting the boat on fire, that kind of thing. Despite his less-than-stellar performance as a yacht captain, Stewart followed his Greek Islands adventure by signing on with a cross-Atlantic re-creation of Leif Eriksson's original route to Vinland--all right, he didn't exactly know what or where Vinland was, but it sounded like it might be fun. So is the book: Stewart really is a quite gifted writer, gleefully poking fun at himself and thoroughly entertaining the reader. --Booklist, starred review "Stewart's eventual love of sailing translates well to landlubbers, while sailors will be glad to have missed the winter storms and sea ice encountered. A funny, appealing read." --Library Journal "Three Ways to Capsize a Boat: An Optimist Afloat is Stewart's hilarious account of exploring the world, and he proves that no obstacle--seasickness, setting the boat on fire, capsizing--will stand in his way of exploring the seas." --National Geographic Traveler "Charming, witty, and appealing, this is the work of a gifted writer who is at the top of hi...About the Author Chris Stewart shot to fame with *Driving Over Lemons* (9780956003805) - Sort Of Books' launch title in 1999. Funny, insightful and real, the book told the story of how he bought a peasant farm on the wrong side of the river, with its previous owner still resident. It became an international bestseller and with its sequels - *A Parrot in the Pepper Tree* and *The Almond Blossom Appreciation Society* - it has sold more than a million copies in the UK alone. Chris prepared for life on his Spanish mountain farm with jobs of doubtful relevance. He was the original drummer in Genesis (he played on the first album), then joined a circus, learnt how to shear sheep, went to China to write the *Rough Guide*, gained a pilot's license in Los Angeles, and completed a course in French cooking. *Three Ways to Capsize a Boat* fills in his lost years as a yacht skipper in the Greek islands. Despite the extraordinary success of his books, Chris, his wife Ana, and their daughter Chloe, continue to live on their farm, with their numerous dogs, cats, chickens, sheep and misanthropic parrot.