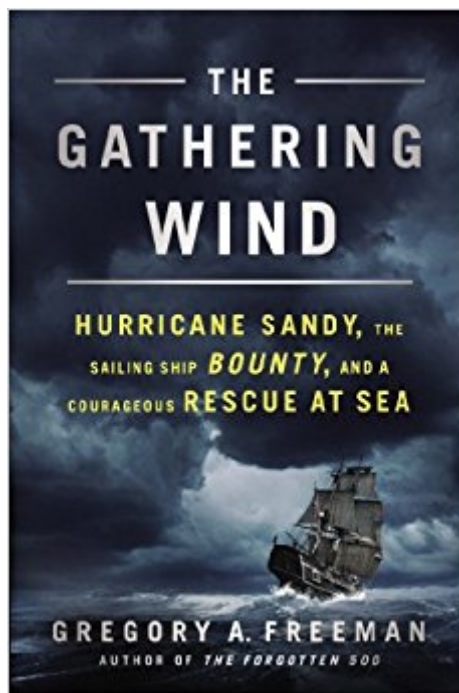




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# The Gathering Wind: Hurricane Sandy, The Sailing Ship Bounty, And A Courageous Rescue At Sea



## Synopsis

October 2012. A replica of the famous HMS Bounty, an eighteenth-century tall sailing ship, set a collision course with a storm that became the largest hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic. A clash that proved to be one of the most unforgettable stories of Superstorm Sandy. The Bounty, crewed by an eclectic team of seafarers and led by highly respected captain Robin Walbridge, departed from Connecticut as Sandy raced north. Walbridge, whose decisions decided the fate of his ship and crew, attempted to outmaneuver the storm by heading southeast. As violent gusts tossed the wooden vessel, the crew fought to save their ship and themselves. When the storm finally overtook the ship, the crew was tossed into the churning sea. The men and women of a Coast Guard station in North Carolina courageously flew into hundred-mile-per-hour winds to rescue the survivors of the Bounty. After hours of white-knuckle flying, they accomplished one of their most memorable rescues ever. Based on interviews with Bounty survivors and unfettered access to Coast Guard rescue team members, *The Gathering Wind* is the most complete account of this heartbreaking, thrilling, and inspirational story. INCLUDES PHOTOS

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Freeman, author of such books as *The Forgotten 500* (2007), about a WWII mission to rescue Allied pilots stranded in Yugoslavia, turns his attention to the recent sinking of the Bounty, the tall ship that sailed into Hurricane Sandy in October 2012, most of its crew saved from certain death through a

daring rescue by the U.S. Coast Guard. The author chronicles the events leading up to the disaster, the rescue itself, and the aftermath: the Coast Guard's investigation into the Bounty's sinking, during which there was much debate about who was responsible for the tragedy (the captain, who knowingly sailed into the path of a hurricane, or the ship's owner, who was apparently pushing to keep the boat on a very tight schedule? Freeman is a fine nonfiction writer, with a sharp analytical eye, who always asks the important questions (in this case, What did the captain know, when did he know it, and why didn't he tell his crew?). An intelligent, even-keeled, and dramatic look at a much-publicized maritime disaster. --David Pitt --This text refers to the MP3 CD edition.

**PRAISE FOR *THE FORGOTTEN 500***  
"Told in riveting detail for the first time, *The Forgotten 500* is a tale of unsung heroes who went above and beyond."  
•James Bradley, New York Times Bestselling Author of *Flags of Our Fathers*  
"Reads like a fast-paced novel."  
•Malcolm McConnell, New York Times #1 Bestselling Coauthor of *American Soldier*  
"A literary and journalistic achievement of the highest order, a book that illuminates, thrills, and reminds us that heroes sometimes do live among us. It will take your breath away."  
•Gregg Olsen, New York Times Bestselling Author of *The Deep Dark*  
"Evoking the rescuees' successive desperation, wild hope, and joy, and their gratitude to the Serbians who risked their lives to help, Freeman produces a breathtaking popular account."  
•Booklist  
"An exciting, powerful story of escape and rescue. It has been buried for too long."  
•Tony Koltz, New York Times Bestselling Author of *The Battle for Peace*

Gregory Freeman does a fantastic job of making a straightforward narrative of the complex story surrounding the Bounty's sinking in the midst of hurricane Sandy in 2012. The book recounts the history of the ship - originally built as a movie prop and later used as a moored tourist attraction. From there it moves into the story of the fateful voyage; where the captain decided to leave New England and head south, into what later proved to be one of the largest storms of the century. The heroic efforts of the Coast Guard to rescue the crew are also covered in detail. Anybody who enjoys adventure stories at sea will like this book. If you read this book, I recommend tracking down the official Coast Guard report on the Bounty's sinking and crew rescue (it's available on the Coast Guard's web site). It contains additional diagrams and photos of the Bounty that help clarify how the ship was laid out.

Again, I saw this book in another bookseller's store and went home and bought it on my Kindle. Naughty B.I found the story of Captain Robin Walbridge and the Bounty's tragic end in Hurricane Sandy fascinating. I began the book thinking "Why in the world would someone have taken that ship into that hurricane?" I didn't get a solid answer to my question, but I learned a great deal about how things happened in the days before the end. I also learned of his crew's devotion to Walbridge, who sounds like an excellent seafarer. This makes his decision to set sail even more puzzling. I highly recommend this excellent book to anyone who is fascinated by life on a Tall Ship, and who wants to puzzle over what I think may remain a great mystery. My appetite for learning more has been whetted. I also highly recommend readers watch the Coast Guard video of the rescue of the 14 Bounty crew members on YouTube. It is high drama on the very high seas. Huge Kudos to the Coasties who risked their lives for the Bounty's crew. May Robin Walbridge and Claudene Christian rest in peace in the winds of the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

I actually read this myself while on vacation even though I think it's intended for a younger audience given the characters and the boarding school setting. Even though the reader knows from the start it's about an angst ridden young man, the first 3/4 or so of the book are somewhat breezy, so I was a little surprised when the latter chapters took on a darker tone. Maybe I'm just a naive reader. But I'd be careful about letting younger teenagers read it without any support to help them deal with the heavier emotions. Just my 2¢ - I'm sure others see it differently.

This is a hard book for me to read. But he's got a couple of things wrong, so far. He's a bit confused about something I said. And he doesn't understand how the gensets were configured. As the book progresses, he gets more things wrong. It's pretty well written, and a gripping story, but I don't trust any of the "facts" presented, because of the things I know he got wrong. In case you don't realize it, I'm one of the survivors and a character in the book.

Great Book! Did not realize the depth of power that Sandy wielded. Did not want to put it down. Recommend!

Another well written documentary on the sinking of the Bounty.

As a lover of all sea rescue books, I place this one near the top of my list. I couldn't put it down, and

like everyone else will be forever perplexed by this wise captain's unfortunate decision. His legacy should be the incredible respect he garnered with his crew(s).

Freeman again presents history in a most readable and entertaining fashion. The Bounty indeed meets Sandy. The fight to survive is vividly presented. All parts are carefully presented: before the storm, during the storm, and the hearing after the storm. This book is highly recommended.

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