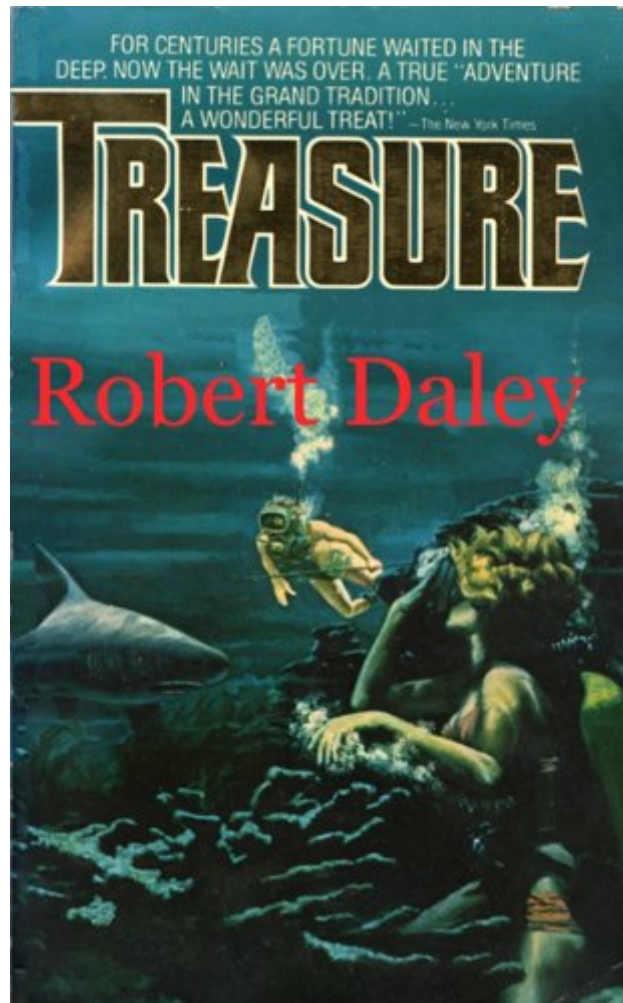




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TREASURE - The Search For The Atocha



Synopsis

The harrowing story of Mel Fisher's quest for the 600-ton galleon Nuestra Senora de Atocha, vice-flagship of King Philip IV of Spain, which sank off Key West in 1622, taking with it to the bottom 250,000 silver coins, 901-plus silver ingots, 161 pieces of gold bullion, emeralds and other jewels—47 tons of treasure in all, worth \$600 million today, Fisher claimed. If he could find it. Trusting to incredible persistence, raw courage and luck, Fisher and his divers searched the reefs and seas for clues. They fought off storms and sharks. Salvage vessels sank under them. Four crewmen were killed. Years were spent making futile dives and arranging desperate deals for financial backing; divers never knew when or if they would be paid—whether they would live to see the end of the adventure at all. Mel Fisher, the incredible optimist who never gave up, cheered his crew each morning with his slogan, "Today's the day!"

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Not since reading Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson as a child, have stories of Spanish

galleons and treasure so captured my imagination. I got this book to read on for a road trip through Florida and had a hard time putting it down. I was impressed not only by Mel Fisher's single minded search, but also by all the painstaking historical research that went into unraveling the story of the Atocha's last hours and where it might have come to rest. Kudos for Robert Daley for spinning such a fun yarn about the richest treasure ever found. My only wish was for a few images of at least some of the items found by the divers and even the divers themselves were included with this book.

Haven't read the kindle version yet, but the book has always fascinated me. The thought of a dedicated researcher pawing through centuries of accumulated records and maps in the Archive of the Indies in Spain, reading faded handwriting of various qualities, in Spanish and perhaps Portuguese...what a good man! In the long run, his efforts pay off with solid leads to the Atocha treasure ship, and ultimately the recovery of treasure...and the loss of life as well.

I really enjoyed filling in the gaps around a story I thought I already knew. I was in the Keys during this time period fresh out of high school, and I was recruited by some salvage divers. I couldn't confirm it was anyone from Mel Fisher's crew, but I do remember kicking myself when I heard of Fisher's find shortly afterwards. This book is a story - not a list of dates and events - that would be incredible fiction, but it's all true. I also love the way the author has brought in the history of the Spanish galleons.

This is a well written book that you're probably familiar with already so I won't go into too much detail. We visited Key West on a cruise back in the early 90's, and that's when I first became aware of Mel Fisher and the treasure hunting they were doing. We only had a few hours there so missed going into the museum and someday we wish to go back. But it's a long way from Michigan and after reading the book I'm not sure I'd want to support that kind of thing. But hey, Key West,, sure I'll go. Anyway, I just find it so sad that a man's life, and those around him, can be so swallowed up in a single-minded pursuit. No matter what the possible payoff in the end, for me, it would not have been worth it. Fisher comes off in this book as someone who didn't care what anyone did, what problems he caused for others, or what he damaged never seemed to cross his mind.. It was always the treasure.. which is pathetic to me. He kind of reminds me of those who forced others to mine the gold he sought.. screw everyone and everything else, this is me and my gold. I wonder how those left in his reckless wake feel about it? As long as this book is, it still kept me interested and only for a little bit in the middle did it seem to drag. My 4 stars is a reflection on the book, how it held my interest

and how well it's written and researched and not how sad it made me feel in the end for all of those involved.

Excellent, thorough coverage of the story of Mel Fisher and the search for the Atocha shipwreck. Couldn't put it down! The author covers every aspect of the story from the beginning, from Mel Fisher's start as a treasure hunter, the many people who worked with him, the tragedies, and most of all, Fisher's amazing obsession and relentless pursuit of his goal and dream, no matter what obstacles he faced. And there were so many! An amazing story. The author also spends a lot of time explaining the role and work of Eugene Lyon and what might seem like dry stuff reading old historical documents. But this was the critical piece of the puzzle that led to the finding of the Atocha and it is an amazing story in its own right. Wow what a tale and very well written. I haven't read all that has been written about Mel Fisher and the Atocha but this would have to be one of the best and most authoritative books written about it.

"Treasure" is the kind of true-life adventure story you always wanted to read but could never seem to locate. Well, this treasure has finally been discovered. Robert Daley did a phenomenal job of presenting the story of Mel Fisher and his exhausting search for the gold and silver treasures of the Spanish galleon Atocha. I heartily recommend this book to anyone who has ever prospected for gold, searched for treasure or is fascinated by the thought of buried treasure. You won't be disappointed.

"Fantabulous" reading! A true story that is hard to put down, and it has everything from the diligently researched historical facts of Spanish galleons in the 17th century to the treasure hunt near Key West by Mel Fisher, Dr. Gene Lyon, Don Kincaid, "Bouncy" John Lewis, and all the boat captains, other divers, and investors. I had no idea that these galleons sailed our coastline, the cargo they carried, where it came from, and then the self-determination of Fisher and his assembled team to find all that was lost. The effort is fantastic, and as Fisher says, "Fantabulous!" A book filled with edge-of-your-seat moments, great characters, and a conclusion that stopped the world. The non-fiction story is so well written I wanted to join in the treasure hunt, and was asking myself where was I during all of this because I would have gone there in a second! I highly recommend this book. The paperback has pictures and drawings. The Kindle version I bought to finish the book did not.

Mel Fisher was a man of unbelievable tenacity.

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