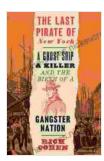
# The Last Pirate of New York: The True Story of Captain William Kidd

Captain William Kidd was one of the most notorious pirates in history. He was born in Scotland in 1645, and he began his career as a privateer, commissioned by the British government to attack French ships during the War of the Spanish Succession. However, Kidd soon turned to piracy, and he quickly became one of the most feared pirates in the Caribbean.



## The Last Pirate of New York: A Ghost Ship, a Killer, and the Birth of a Gangster Nation by Rich Cohen

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.2 out of 5 Language : English File size : 16076 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 234 pages



In 1696, Kidd was captured by the Royal Navy and brought back to England to stand trial. He was found guilty of piracy and murder, and he was hanged in 1701. However, Kidd's legacy as a pirate continues to live on, and he remains one of the most fascinating figures in maritime history.

### **Early Life and Career**

William Kidd was born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1645. His father was a shipwright, and Kidd followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a skilled shipbuilder himself. In the late 1680s, Kidd moved to New York City, where he became involved in the shipping business. He quickly rose through the ranks, and he soon became one of the most successful merchants in the city.

In 1695, the War of the Spanish Succession broke out. Kidd was commissioned by the British government to attack French ships, and he quickly proved to be a skilled and successful privateer. However, Kidd soon grew tired of the restrictions imposed on him by the British government, and he decided to turn to piracy.

#### **Pirate Years**

In 1696, Kidd sailed from New York with a crew of 150 men. He quickly captured several French ships, and he soon became one of the most feared pirates in the Caribbean. Kidd's reputation for brutality grew, and he was known for his willingness to kill anyone who got in his way.

In 1698, Kidd captured the Quedagh Merchant, a ship carrying a fortune in gold and silver. This capture made Kidd one of the richest pirates in the world, and it also brought him to the attention of the British government.

### **Capture and Trial**

In 1699, Kidd was captured by the Royal Navy and brought back to England to stand trial. He was found guilty of piracy and murder, and he was hanged in 1701.

Kidd's trial was a highly publicized event, and it helped to create the popular image of pirates as bloodthirsty criminals. However, Kidd's legacy is more complex than that. He was a skilled navigator and shipbuilder, and he was also a successful merchant before he turned to piracy. Kidd was a complex and contradictory figure, and his story continues to fascinate people to this day.

#### The Last Pirate of New York

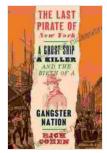
Captain William Kidd was the last pirate to be hanged in New York City. His execution marked the end of the golden age of piracy, and it helped to create the popular image of pirates as bloodthirsty criminals. However, Kidd's legacy is more complex than that. He was a skilled navigator and shipbuilder, and he was also a successful merchant before he turned to piracy. Kidd was a complex and contradictory figure, and his story continues to fascinate people to this day.

#### Additional Information

- Captain William Kidd's pirate flag was a black flag with a white skull and crossbones.
- Kidd's ship, the Adventure Galley, was one of the largest and most powerful pirate ships of its time.
- Kidd's treasure has never been found, and it is still the subject of speculation and legend today.

Captain William Kidd was a complex and contradictory figure. He was a skilled navigator and shipbuilder, and he was also a successful merchant before he turned to piracy. Kidd was a ruthless pirate, but he was also a

man of courage and ambition. His story is a fascinating look at the golden age of piracy, and it continues to fascinate people to this day.



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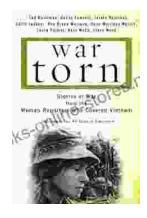
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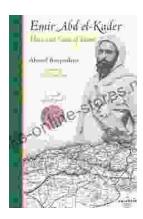


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