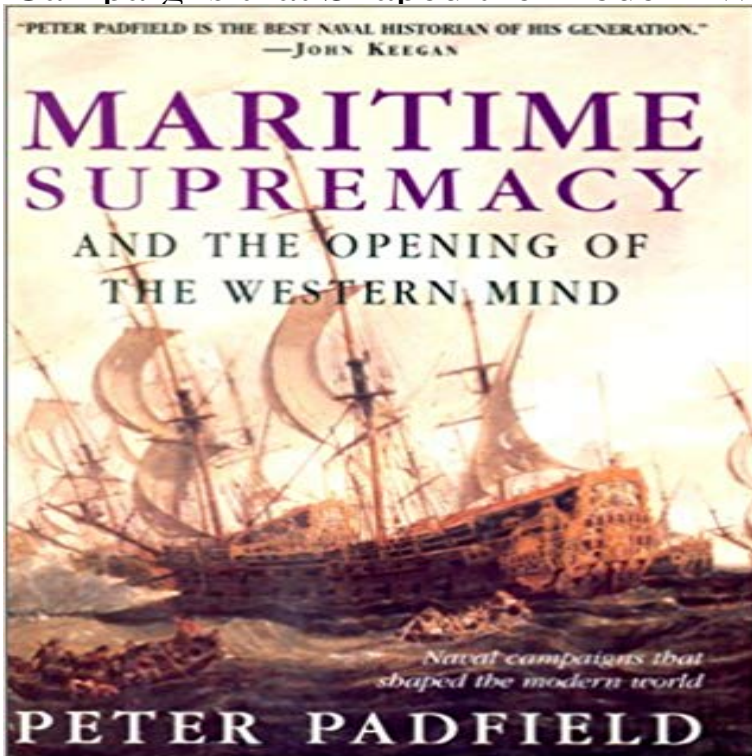


Maritime Supremacy and the Opening of the Western Mind: Naval Campaigns that Shaped the Modern World



In the great wars of modern history, maritime powers have always prevailed over land-based empires. This extraordinary book charts the growth of these powers in various western countries while revealing the way in which supremacy at sea freed thought and society itself. As noted historian Peter Padfield demonstrates, those nations attaining mastery at sea have been distinguished by liberty, flexibility, and enterprise, a historical lesson of burning relevance today. *Maritime Supremacy* details the struggles of the first supreme maritime powers of the modern age, the Dutch and the British, and ends with the emergence of the ultimate successor, the United States world power was won. Immersing the reader in the drama of events, including riveting great sea battles, Padfield challenges our view of the evolution of today's world. Outstanding ... offers up naval campaigns and sea battles as vivid as any you will find in Patrick O'Brien. (John Lehman, former secretary of the US Navy, *The Wall Street Journal*) [Padfield's] comprehension of the context and his natural, understandable absorption in the details are expressed in fine writing. (Stephen Howarth, *Naval History*)

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