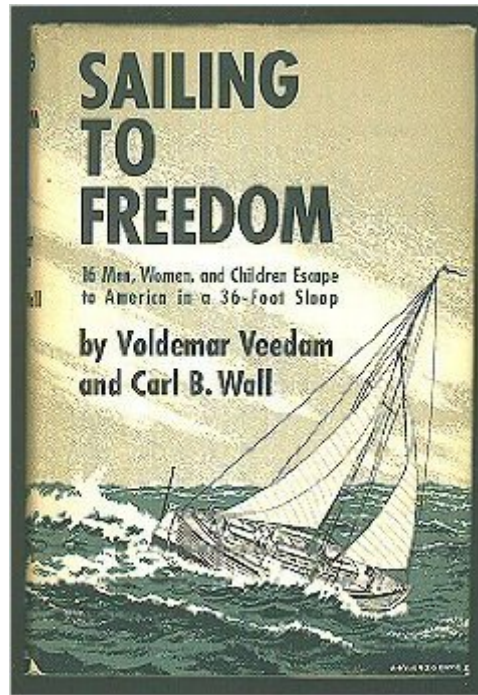


The book was found

Sailing To Freedom



Book Information

Hardcover: 246 pages

Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co.; 1st edition (January 1, 1952)

Language: English

ASIN: B00005XU5V

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 5.7 x 1.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,425,855 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #151 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing > Narratives](#) #6859 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#)

Customer Reviews

Sailing to Freedom is the exciting and inspiring true story of the journey of a group of Estonian refugees from Stockholm to America by small sailboat shortly after WW II. Estonians suffered terribly during WW II – first from the Soviets, then the Nazis, then the Soviets until independence in the early 1990s. During the war many Estonians escaped to Sweden, but then after the war they feared being sent back to face execution or the gulag in Siberia. Under the most harrowing circumstances many of the Estonian refugees struggled to get to Canada, the US, or Australia. Voldemar Veedam and a group of young men, older women, and children purchased a 37 foot wooden sailboat and fit it out for the improbable voyage to America. But with pluck, courage, consummate skill of several of the men, and a great serving of luck they made it across Sweden by canal (they had installed an unreliable diesel engine and had to hand tow the boat most of the way), to Norway, thence to Scotland, Ireland, the island of Madeira, and after 56 days crossing the Atlantic, to Norfolk, VA. The most dreadful parts of the journey were near the North American coast where they were beset by winter storms and ran out of food and water. Oddly enough, though, it was the calms that caused them the most difficulty. (All world sailors complain more about the dead calms than they do about the storms.) Besides being a fascinating narrative of sailing and navigating skill under the most trying circumstances, Sailing to Freedom is an inspiring story of what can be accomplished with hard work, determination, persistence, and skill. I highly recommend this book to anybody who fancies sailing stories – there's none better (and I've read many dozens).

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