# Knights of the Sea: The True Story of the Boxer and the Enterprise and the War of 1812

David Hanna

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Knights of the Sea: The True Story of the Boxer and the Enterprise and the War of 1812 David Hanna On a September day in 1813, as citizens watched from the rocky shore of Pemaquid, Maine, two of the last and bravest military sailing commanders engaged in a battle that would change the course of the War of 1812...

Samuel Blyth was the youthful commander of His Britannic Majesty's brig *Boxer*, and William Burrows, younger still, commanded the USS *Enterprise*. Both men valued honor above all, and on this day their commitment would be put to the ultimate test.

Though it lasted less than an hour, the battle between the *Boxer* and the *Enterprise* was a brutal contest whose outcome was uncertain. When the cannon smoke cleared, good men had been lost, and the U.S. Navy's role in the war had changed.

In *Knights of the Sea*, David Hanna brings to life a lost era, paying tribute to the young commanders who considered it the highest honor to harness the wind to meet their foes, and would be immortalized by the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. The only major sea battle of the War of 1812 witnessed by landsmen, the fight between the *Boxer* and the *Enterprise* came to represent not only a military turning point, but a maritime era that would soon be gone forever.



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