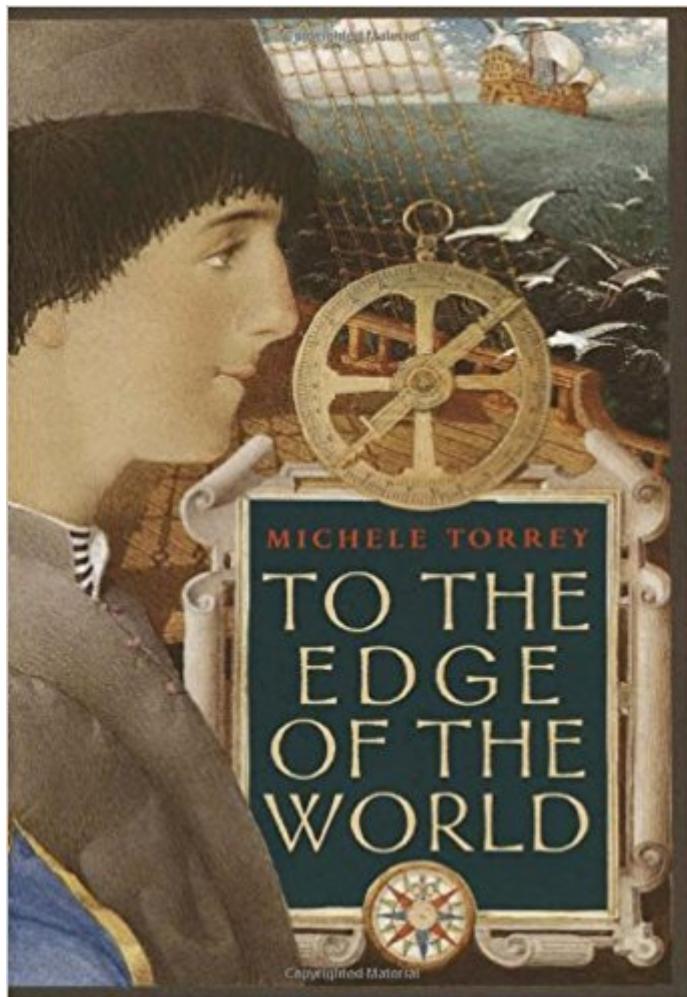


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# To The Edge Of The World



## Synopsis

ORPHANED BY THE plague and penniless, Mateo must find his way in the world. By chance he is made a cabin boy on the celebrated voyage of Captain-General Ferdinand Magellan. The destination is secret, but the crew whispers that Magellan will be the first to sail east to the Spice Islands by going west— and everyone shall return with untold riches. At sea, Mateo discovers the meaning of friendship, loyalty, and hard work, as well as the delight of first love. But when the ocean rages and brother turns against brother, both Mateo and Magellan are in danger— and it's not clear if anyone will survive. . . . Torrey deftly maintains the taut thread of adventure that, along with the cast of memorable characters, keep the pages turning.

Publishers Weekly, Starred

"This deserves to be in the hands of every reader who loves history and adventure."

Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 730L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers; First American Edition edition (February 11, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375823387

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Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.9 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,325,447 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discovery #201 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #9045 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Gr. 5-8. In this fast-paced sea-faring adventure, a fictional orphan, Mateo, joins Magellan as a cabin boy on the voyage that pioneered the Straits of Magellan and completed the first trip around the world. The plot follows the dramatic historic journey, complete with discoveries, mutinies, diseases, near-starvation, and encounters with indigenous peoples. During the course of three years, Mateo

grows up with the close guidance of Magellan. Such a warm friendship between captain and cabin boy may not seem realistic, but it provides a vantage point for Mateo to witness historic events and hear Magellan's own musings. Mateo's friendship with a slightly older, rebellious sailor emphasizes the intimacy of life on board ship, and the reckless friend provides a contrast to Mateo's growing thoughtfulness. Karen Hesse's *Stowaway* (2000), which also creates a cabin boy to observe a momentous voyage, offers the sort of thorough back matter that would have enhanced this, but there's solid page-turning excitement for fans of sea stories and also some fascinating history here. Kathleen Odean

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"Deserves to be in the hands of every reader who loves history and adventure." -- Kirkus Reviews, December 15, 2002

Historical fiction for middle grades does a nice job of relating the voyage of Megellan and his crew.

This will always be one of my absolute favorite books. What an incredible story this is! It takes you on such an amazing journey into another time and place and into the mindset of one of the most incredible explorers. Loved every sentence! A must read for adventure and history lovers.

Great read-aloud, but please know there are a number of very grown-up themes scattered throughout.

Son had to read it for class.

Mateo Macias de Avila must learn to survive on his own after his parents die of the plague in 1519. Fourteen year old Mateo can draw, read, sing and play a guitar. These talents help him once he is recruited as cabin boy, musician, and eventually ship artist on a voyage led by Magellan. I found this book suitable for older children and young adults. Though the reading level is 5th-8th grade, the material is often at an older level. I would lean towards grades 7-9 as the youngest readers for this book.

To the Edge of the World is an exciting book, full of adventure and surprises. The book made me feel like I was right there with Mateo, the cabin boy on Magellan's journey to the Spice Islands. I never imagined there were so many dangers on a trip around the world! I recommend the book to

anybody who likes the sea, history, and real-life adventures.

A terrific read!!! From the first sentence I was captivated by this ingenious story. The dialogue is natural, the descriptions are picturesque, and the whole book is a delight to read, even the glossary which is also helpful. I highly recommend this book to elementary teachers of English, history, science and the arts.

To the Edge of the World is a great read that really satisfied me. It is based on real life events, even though some of the characters fictional. It is a tale of courage, comradery, and adventure. I recommend it to anyone who likes books about the sea and/or adventure.

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