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David Emery Bricker

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#3629735 in Books David Bricker 2014-01-31Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x 1.13 x 5.98l, 1.77
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David Emery Bricker : The Blue Monk before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Blue Monk:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. To follow a natureBy MikeTo step from the normal walk of life and stretch out to see where the unknown leads is admirable. It's not for everyone to do, but Dave's tales are an inspiration for anyone who long's for adventure; whether they desire the tangible act, or an intangible sense of it.The characteristics of life under sail are almost indescribable unless you've lived it. Dave's tales brought me back to anchorages and passages with a breeze, and gale, in my face, and a taste of salt in the air - desire for the blue water returned. Aside from the comforts and amenities provided with a large bankroll, the only limit to life on a boat is land.

Dave details the qualities, challenges, and character of that life with blunt, humorous, and vivid descriptions of adventure and encounters for all to enjoy. We all have a tale to share, and I was captivated by *The Blue Monk's*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A real page turner. By bookemdano For anyone who enjoys true life adventure stories, you'll enjoy this. Very well written. Couldn't put it down. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A great sailor's odyssey. By Lee A. Bricker Full disclosure here I'm Dave Bricker's Dad, and I'm recommending that you read *The Blue Monk*. I, of course, got to watch Dave grow up, proceeding early towards goals his mom and I couldn't understand. Never a top student, he majored in Jazz in college, and became a first-rate guitarist. While his mom and I despaired of his career choices, such as they were, he gravitated to a community of what we saw as a motley collection of misfits in Miami's Coconut Grove anchorage, where, inexplicably, he found himself at home. I derisively called him a street person of the sea, as, to my eye, despite his expertise with computers, he floundered uselessly around, having somehow learned to survive on 30 cents a month out there on the water. I know better now. *The Blue Monk* tells the story, which I read with page-turning fascination. It turns out that this kid of mine, now nearly 50, has meticulously and gorgeously recorded a marvelous odyssey of the sea. As you read, you'll alternately be drenched by spray, swept into realms of great joy and calm, occasionally run aground in strange places, sometimes made queasy by motions of the craft on choppy and uncertain seas, and will experience, through his powerful descriptive talent, the vastness of the dark, starry night skies, remote beaches, and the total range of things that can happen to an expertly piloted small sailboat alone out on an unforgiving ocean. The reader gets to meet many of the characters in the Anchorage, who mostly turn out to be honorable and fascinating, if often non-conforming, folks. You experience the Abacos, Miami Beach, Gibraltar, the violent horizontal Niagara of Hurricane Andrew, the immense open ocean, and a host of other places, all described with (who would have guessed?) a great storyteller's keen eye and a true gift for language. You really should read this book! Lee Bricker

In 1989 Dave Bricker set off across the Gulf Stream in a small sailboat with \$30 in his pocket. His voyages aboard *The Blue Monk* through the Bahamas and across the Atlantic to Gibraltar are recounted in vivid prose. *The Blue Monk* is a journey of self-discovery set in a world of saturated colors, remarkable people, hazardous reefs, and transcendent beauty. Bricker chronicles a little-known fragment of Miami's history and encourages us all to embrace a world of power and magic that lies only a few steps off the sidewalk. *The Blue Monk* is cloth bound with an attractive modernist dust jacket, gold foil stamped, and typeset to 1920s "hot metal" standards. Big publishers use small type, tight leading (line spacing), and narrow margins to save ink, paper, and shipping costs on huge print runs. This book demonstrates how self-publishers can exceed industry standards to produce elegant, comfortable to read books. *The Blue Monk* received a 2014 IPPY Award for "Excellence in Independent Publishing."

From the Author In 1983, when I was 18-years old, I encountered a community of eccentric sailors who lived in a secret anchorage on the far side of the spoil islands a quarter-mile from Miami City Hall. What I found there inspired me and challenged me to expand my perspectives. Though the Dinner Key Anchorage was often dismissed as a community of "derelicts, bums, winos and thieves," I found instead a group of articulate, capable, innovative, educated, and highly skilled people who took me in and literally 'taught me the ropes.' Many of them traveled the world, depending on little but good fortune and determination. At 23, while working on a jazz guitar degree, I bought an old 26-foot sailboat and named her *The Blue Monk* after the tune by pianist, Thelonious Monk. Six months after graduating, I took off with \$30 in my pocket for a series of adventures that took me through the Bahamas and eventually across the Atlantic to Gibraltar. On the surface, *The Blue Monk* is a memoir that recounts how I came to love sailing, joined a unique community of misunderstood people, and sailed away to enjoy a life of adventure. The book also provides an account of a special slice of Miami history that would otherwise remain unrecorded. But *The Blue Monk* is not really about me; who wants to read a book by an author who can write about himself for hundreds of pages? *The Blue Monk* is about something much larger; I am but the narrator. My experiences sailing alone on a small boat were beautiful and sometimes terrifying. Often, they were an odd combination of both. *The Blue Monk* tells of an encounter with a remarkable world that lies just beyond the horizon and deep within each of us. *The Blue Monk* is rich life experience translated into prose, a vehicle that transports the reader there and then. From the Inside Flap In 1989 Dave Bricker set off across the Gulf Stream in a small sailboat with \$30 in his pocket. His voyages aboard *The Blue Monk* through the Bahamas and across the Atlantic to Gibraltar are recounted in vivid prose. *The Blue Monk* is a journey of self-discovery set in a world of saturated colors, remarkable people, hazardous reefs, and transcendent beauty. Bricker chronicles a little-known fragment of Miami's history and encourages us all to embrace a world of power and magic that lies only a few steps off the sidewalk. About the Author Dave Bricker, MFA is the author of *The Dance*, *Waves*, *Currents*, and *The One Hour Guide to Self-Publishing*. He runs a marketing and design studio in Miami, Florida, plays guitar in a 1930s acoustic swing band, and created the eBook Publishing Platform.