



# **Narrative of the Most Extraordinary And Distressing Shipwreck of the Whaleship Essex**

*Written by Owen Chase, First Mate of the Essex*

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"I saw the whale ahead of us, coming with twice his ordinary speed, and with tenfold fury and vengeance in his aspect. The surf flew in all directions about him and his course toward us was marked by a white foam which he made with continual violent thrashing of his tail; his head was about half out of water and in that way he came upon and again struck the ship." An angry whale rams and destroys a whale ship in 1820. The helpless crew stranded 1500 miles from land struggles in a desperate journey for survival fighting storms at sea, the relentless sun, lack of water and a dwindling food supply. This is a recording of the original book published in 1821, written by the First Mate of the Essex which influenced author Herman Melville and his novel Moby Dick . Note to listeners: the end of this narrative describes cannibalism and may disturb some persons. 187 Minutes Read by: Andre Stojka

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