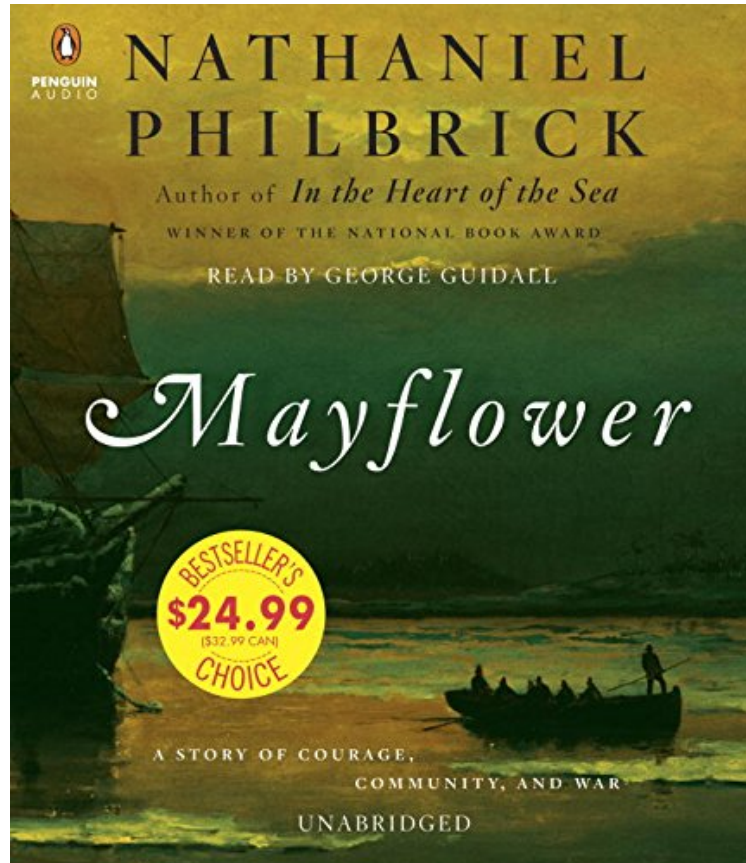


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## Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War

Nathaniel Philbrick

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41.Mb

**Nathaniel Philbrick : Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. History done WellBy susan t. Not just a well written book on one of the most famous ships in history, but very informative on the people who decided to cross to unknown lands and what drove them to make such life altering decisions. What little you knew - or thought you knew - about the "Pilgrims" and the indigenous people who took them in is greatly revealed and explained, with much sympathy to the relationships and bonds that were sorely tested in future generations. Nathan Philbrick does a great job of introducing familiar historical facts and then expanding on them and making this old story new. Highly recommend. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Glad I was able to read this as an adult. The Mayflower is much more interesting a story than it was in school! By Delaine in North Carolina As an amateur genealogist, I have managed to trace my family to the Mayflower. I read about the Plymouth settlements and the ships in high school, but I think we ignored this part of history in college. This book is so easy to read and so factual that I couldn't put it down. I have both the paperback and

the kindle versions - I've found this is the best way to read any book I want to retain and understand fully. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The beginning By Canda Mitchell Political created an explanation for the New England evolving attitudes towards the Native Americans. He did this with few documents but with little conjecture. I enjoyed reading this account of my forefathers but finished wishing for more. The History of New London, written by Frances Manwaring Caulkins, written in the early 1800s, gives more depth to the Pequot War in Connecticut and explains the whys and wherefore better. Nathaniel Philbrick wrote *In The Heart of the Sea* with such intensity... I did not find the same result with the *Mayflower*.

From the perilous ocean crossing to the shared bounty of the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrim settlement of New England has become enshrined as our most sacred national myth. Yet, as bestselling author Nathaniel Philbrick reveals in his spellbinding new book, the true story of the Pilgrims is much more than the well-known tale of piety and sacrifice; it is a fifty-five-year epic that is at once tragic, heroic, exhilarating, and profound. The *Mayflower's* religious refugees arrived in Plymouth Harbor during a period of crisis for Native Americans as disease spread by European fishermen devastated their populations. Initially the two groups—the Wampanoags, under the charismatic and calculating chief Massasoit, and the Pilgrims, whose pugnacious military officer Miles Standish was barely five feet tall—maintained a fragile working relationship. But within decades, New England would erupt into King Philip's War, a savagely bloody conflict that nearly wiped out English colonists and natives alike and forever altered the face of the fledgling colonies and the country that would grow from them. With towering figures like William Bradford and the distinctly American hero Benjamin Church at the center of his narrative, Philbrick has fashioned a fresh and compelling portrait of the dawn of American history—a history dominated right from the start by issues of race, violence, and religion. From the Hardcover edition.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . What makes Philbrick's book so fascinating and accessible the way he turns the Pilgrim legend on its head and shakes out fresh insights from the crusty old mythology we all absorbed in grade school is present in full force in this exceptional audio version. With more than 800 audiobooks to his credit, Guidall gives the term "veteran reader" a whole new meaning. Such leading figures as William Bradford, Benjamin Church and Miles Standish of the so-called Plymouth Colony (which was not even close to Plymouth or its now-famous rock) emerge from the pages of history as understandable if not always admirable figures, and Guidall's evocations of the sadly depleted (by European diseases) Wampanoag Indians and their chief, Massasoit, are equally believable. The bitter voyage of the *Seaflower* (a slave ship taking captive Wampanoags to be sold in the Caribbean after a disastrous war with Massasoit's son, Philip), which rounds out Philbrick's masterful account, is treated with energy, respect and a straightforwardness that only increases its power. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Bookmarks Magazine *Mayflower* rethinks the events and players that gave rise to a national mythology about Pilgrims living harmoniously with their Indian neighbors. Instead, Philbrick tells a story of ethnic cleansing, bloody wars, environmental ruin, and the deterioration of English-Indian relations. While he introduces familiar elements, Philbrick also recasts well-known characters like Miles Standish ("Captain Shrimp"), William Bradford, and Benjamin Church. Most critics agree that he provides a well-researched, unbiased revisionist history (though we should note that for years many people have been reading about the environmental devastation of New England, the bloody Indian-English wars, and the less-than-pious Pilgrims). If not as gripping as the National Book Award-winning *In the Heart of the Sea* (2000), particularly the second half, *Mayflower* nonetheless provides a harrowing account of survival and, despite its grim themes, a celebration of courage. Copyright 2004 Phillips Nelson Media, Inc. From Booklist Starred \* Departing from his customary nautical stories, including the phenomenally popular *In the Heart of the Sea* (2000), Philbrick makes landfall with the saga of the Pilgrims. By necessity, all modern writing about the founding colonists relies on William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation*, interpreting it through modern historical sensibilities that incorporate native perspectives on the newcomers from across the ocean. Long gone is the once inculcated version of friendly Indians helping starving English religious refugees through hard times. The scholarly thesis now has the Pilgrims arriving amid coastal Indian societies that had been decimated by a pandemic. The Pilgrims appeared in 1620 as a potential ally to the weakened Pokanokets and their sachem Massasoit against neighboring enemies: the Massachusetts and the Narragansetts. Philbrick essentially recounts this reigning interpretation with sensitivity to landscape description, narrative suspense, and understanding of motivations: piety, wrath, gratitude, duplicity—a panorama of human character and historical portent is on display in Philbrick's skillful rendering. Chronologically tracking the fortunes of the alliance struck by Massasoit with Bradford, Philbrick carries events through the second generation, in whose collective hands the alliance exploded into King Philip's War of 1675-76. A sterling synthesis of sources, Philbrick's epic seems poised to become a critical and commercial hit. Gilbert Taylor Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved