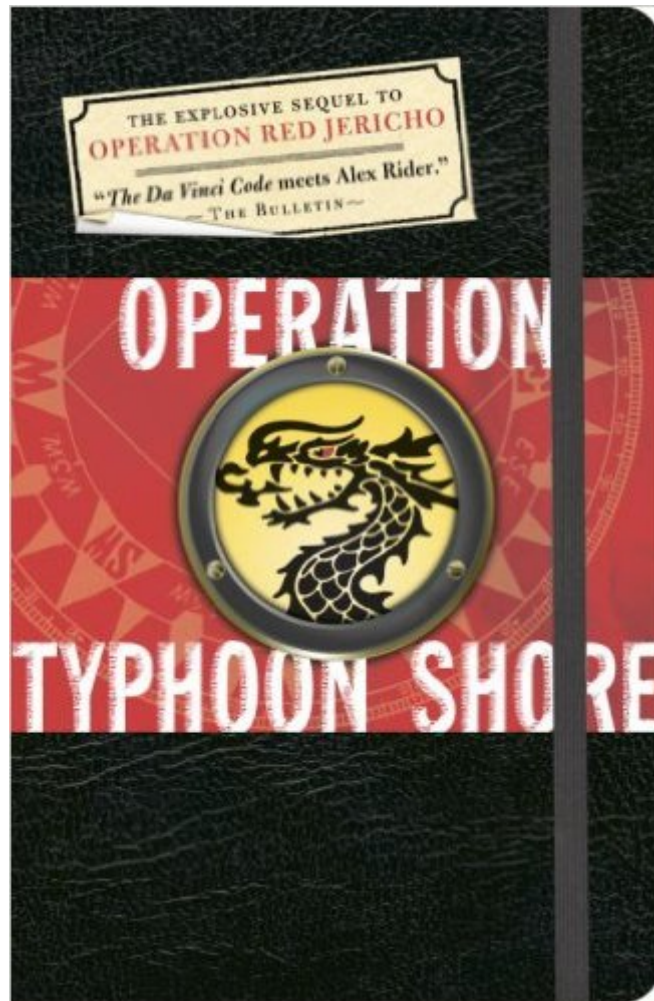


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Operation Typhoon Shore (The Guild Of Specialists, No.2)



Synopsis

Get ready for Book II of the thrilling, novelty-packed Guild of Specialists trilogy. After being lashed by a typhoon on their uncle's ship, *THE EXPEDIENT*, intrepid siblings Becca and Doug MacKenzie want nothing more than to escape from the volcanic island on which they're stranded and resume the search for their parents. But their uncle, Captain MacKenzie, seems more concerned with the missing gyrolabe than their missing mother and father, and he refuses to discuss the role the mysterious Guild of Specialists played in their disappearance. As the formidable Kalaxx warriors close in on their hidden cove, Becca and Doug unearth a riddle linked to a 1533 painting, which may hold the key to the Guild's dark secrets and to finding their parents. But how can they possibly solve the puzzle and escape with their lives before their enemies attack?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Having grown up with Edgar Rice Burroughs - this is exactly the sort of high adventure I loved. These are more sophisticated technically (no need for strange powers etc). I thoroughly enjoyed the first book and am not disappointed with the second. The presentation is superb, with excellent facsimile documents and photographs, made to look like a real journal, beautiful fold out maps and schematics of Ships, and submarines, captivate. The story is fast paced and has an authenticity to it. A real Indiana Jones meets the league of extraordinary gentlemen. Enough to stimulate the imagination of any reader, adult or child.

The ship was tossed and turned as the typhoon ripped through the South China seas. This is just a

little of all the action, adventure, and mystery that happens in this book. Operation Typhoon Shore has great action, but the mystery is even better. For me the mystery is what hooked me, and kept my mind focused on the book. The book left me hanging at the end of each chapter motivating me to read more. Joshua Mowll sets the book up so I found clues in the text, and uncovered a little part of the mystery at a time. When I was reading the book it made me feel like a detective, so it felt like I was in the story. Another reason I liked this book was because of the lively characters. The author gives each character a vivid description. At some parts during the book I felt like the characters were with me. Also, each character had a purpose, so they weren't just in the story because the author wanted them in it. Instead each character is used for a specific piece of the story that without it the reader would be lost. Finally, the mystery and characters is what kept me reading.

Operation Typhoon Shore â ” The story continues in the South China Sea. Doug, Becca & the crew of The Expedient survive the typhoon but the ship is severely damaged. They manage to limp it over to an island where they can park it temporarily for repairs. Itâ™s on this island that they discover their neighbors happen to be the Kalaax, a group of Chinese mercenaries mining zoridium. Well, fant-as-tic. LOL. So they have to go into hiding on the island so these guys donâ™t try to kill them. Doug, Becca and uncle Fitzroy are also trying to discover the location of four gyrolabes, instruments said to be the keys to start up a machine in the city of Ur-Can. No one seems to be quite sure what the machine is suppose to do, they just know the stories say it harnesses a power of epic proportions. But all four gyrolabes need to be present for the machine to turn on. Fights ensue as each of these gyrolabes is alternately lost, found, lost again in skirmishes, found again somewhere else, etc. Doug & Becca still have virtually no information about their parents specifically, but do find themselves questioning the veracity of those said to be friends of their parents. They become unsure of who to trust, or even if they can trust each other. I think this was maybe my least favorite of the trilogy but still a good bit of fun & adventure.

Lots of nice illustrations, the author clearly researched the period and setting. The goofy gravity-control maguffin is presented interestingly. However, I've never really liked the "secret powerful organization centuries old, with secret technology and secret magic, secretly super-rich and able to control governments ... and they're the good guys" meme. The organization has secret ninja friends, secret fighting techniques ... the author doesn't want the protagonists to have negative or critical thoughts about their organization, I suppose. I got this (and the other two) as a gift for a friend who's running a role-playing game. The background and historical information should prove

useful.

My 11-year-old son reads everything he can get his hands on. When I asked him how he liked this book, he thought about it, and finally said, "I would have to say it's the best book I've ever read." 'Nuff said!

Operation Typhoon Shore is in all ways an improvement upon the previous book in its trilogy. In Operation Red Jericho, I found myself forcing myself to read more to finish the book. There was no push for me to want to know what happened next, and I had trouble sympathizing with the characters. But Operation Typhoon Shore was a pleasant surprise and kept me flipping the pages! Becca and Doug are much more likable in this installment. Though Operation Red Jericho included a villain that chopped off his victims' pinkie fingers and wore them in a necklace, the main villain in Operation Typhoon Shore is the much more interesting. Also, the mystery thickens in this volume, leaving you feeling as if you can figure it out alongside the characters and making it all the more compelling. In this sense, I feel that Operation Typhoon Shore is more of a mystery/action novel, while Operation Red Jericho is just action, which may be why I like Operation Typhoon Shore so much more. Aesthetically, I find the cover to be very attractive, (even cooler looking than Operation Red Jericho!) and sleek. It is also equipped with the ever useful attached bookmark. The contents are again filled with diary entries and drawings that add so much insight and visual to the story. Though sometimes I felt that doing it this way made the process of reading it a little jagged (If I'm reading a group's conversation, where do I cut it off to study the diagram next to it?) that might just be me. If you felt the first installment of this trilogy was lukewarm, give Operation Typhoon Shore a go- it may surprise you as it did me. I would not want to own this series, but I believe they are worth the time to read. And fans of Operation Red Jericho will love this one. I must admit I am very enthusiastic about reading the final volume.

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