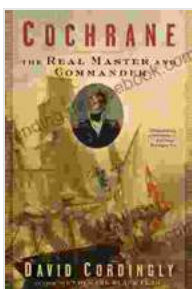


# Cochrane: The Real Master and Commander



## Cochrane: The Real Master and Commander

by David Cordingly

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 10396 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 507 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## Early Life and Career

Thomas Cochrane was born on December 14, 1775, in Annsfield, Lanarkshire, Scotland. He was the son of Archibald Cochrane, the 9th Earl of Dundonald, and Elizabeth Ochiltree. Cochrane's father was a naval officer who had served in the Royal Navy during the American Revolutionary War.

Cochrane joined the Royal Navy in 1793, at the age of 17. He quickly proved to be a skilled and daring seaman, and he rose rapidly through the ranks. In 1799, he was appointed to command the frigate HMS Speedy, which he used to great effect against French privateers and warships.

## Napoleonic Wars

During the Napoleonic Wars, Cochrane commanded a number of ships, including the HMS Pallas, HMS Imperieuse, and HMS Donegal. He became known for his brilliant tactics and daring exploits, and he was one of the most successful naval commanders of the war.

In 1809, Cochrane led a daring attack on the French fleet in Basque Roads, which resulted in the destruction of several enemy ships. This victory earned him the nickname "The Sea Wolf."

## **War of 1812**

In 1812, Cochrane was appointed to command the British squadron on the North American station. He led a number of successful operations against American ships and forts, and he helped to capture the city of Washington, D.C.

However, Cochrane's career in the Royal Navy was cut short in 1814, when he was accused of fraud. He was found guilty and dismissed from the service.

## **Later Life**

After his dismissal from the Royal Navy, Cochrane traveled to South America, where he fought for the independence of Chile and Peru. He also served as the admiral of the Brazilian Navy.

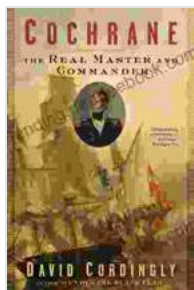
Cochrane returned to England in 1825, and he was eventually reinstated in the Royal Navy. He retired from the service in 1851, and he died in 1860.

## **Legacy**

Thomas Cochrane was one of the most successful naval commanders in British history. He was a brilliant tactician and a daring fighter, and he played a major role in the British victories in the Napoleonic Wars and the War of 1812.

Cochrane's legacy is still debated today. Some historians argue that he was a war criminal who should be condemned for his actions, while others maintain that he was a hero who fought for freedom and justice.

Regardless of one's opinion of Cochrane, there is no doubt that he was one of the most fascinating and colorful figures in British history.

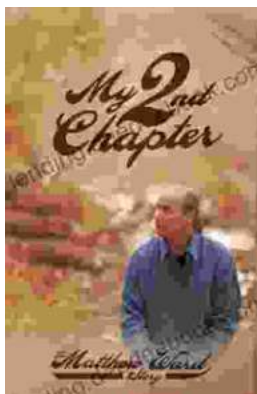


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