

After a life-changing diagnosis in his twenties, Dutch entrepreneur Jacob Gelt Dekker needed to reboot. He set sail from his home in Key West, embarking on an odyssey around the Caribbean islands, navigating treacherous waters and nations forever shaped by the Age of Discovery and transatlantic slave trade. The Caribbean offers us an accessible and entertaining survey of this fascinating region that goes well beyond the usual boundaries of a history book. It is a unique, sharp-witted travelogue in which the author combined his in-depth knowledge of the Caribbean with historical narration and a bit of fantasy.

*"Never give up." If anything typifies Jacob Gelt Dekker, it is his own adagio. I have met many people in many countries but nobody as impressive as Jacob. A most unusual man with a truly remarkable -if not unique- life history, defying an incredible amount of odds thanks to his intelligence, perseverance, creativity and willingness to travel uncharted waters. This book testifies to all that. He is also a noted philanthropist and a most valiant heart. The Fulbright center in Amsterdam is blessed with a patron like him. **Rudolf Bekink, former Dutch Ambassador to the United States***

*A journey on a sailing-ship along the Caribbean Islands becomes a lucid experience through cultural history. In his erudite and eloquent log with a great sense of humor, skipper Jacob Gelt Dekker, accompanied by an imaginary crew, takes us with him over the high waves of sea-battles and slavery to beautiful places on palmy coastlines where locals peacefully prepare their typical food. A most remarkable chronicle! **Hannedea van Nederveen Meerkerk, CEO MoWIC Foundation***

*An entrepreneur man on a mission! I have known Jacob Gelt Dekker for more than a quarter of a century and believe me, he is truly the legendary Flying Dutchman. A man with a genuine concern for the welfare of others and society. His love for the Caribbean Islands is clearly reflected in this book and his surprising apparition of life in the Caribbean is delightful. Jacob has allowed us to sail through the Caribbean Islands forever, while giving us a legacy of hope! **Charles D.A. Ruffolo, President, The NetworKing Corporation & Founder of the Giving Back Foundation***



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