

Pacific passages : an anthology of surf writing / edited, with an introduction and notes by Patrick Moser

Description

Pacific Passages brings together four centuries of writing about surfing, the most comprehensive collection of perspectives on the history and culture of a sport that has recently been transformed into a global industry. Included are Hawaiian legends and chants, journals of the first Western explorers to the South Pacific, and travel narratives of missionaries and luminaries such as Herman Melville, Mark Twain, and Jack London. ...allows readers to trace the historical transformation of surfing's image through the centuries: from Polynesian myths of love to the first Western accounts of an exotic "amusement" that presented nothing but "Horror & Destruction," to modern representations of surfing as a character-building activity and the quintessential expression of disaffected youth. Writers and cultural critics explore the sport's most recent trends, revealing how surfing impacts some of today's most pressing social concerns: technology, competition, gender, heritage, and globalism.