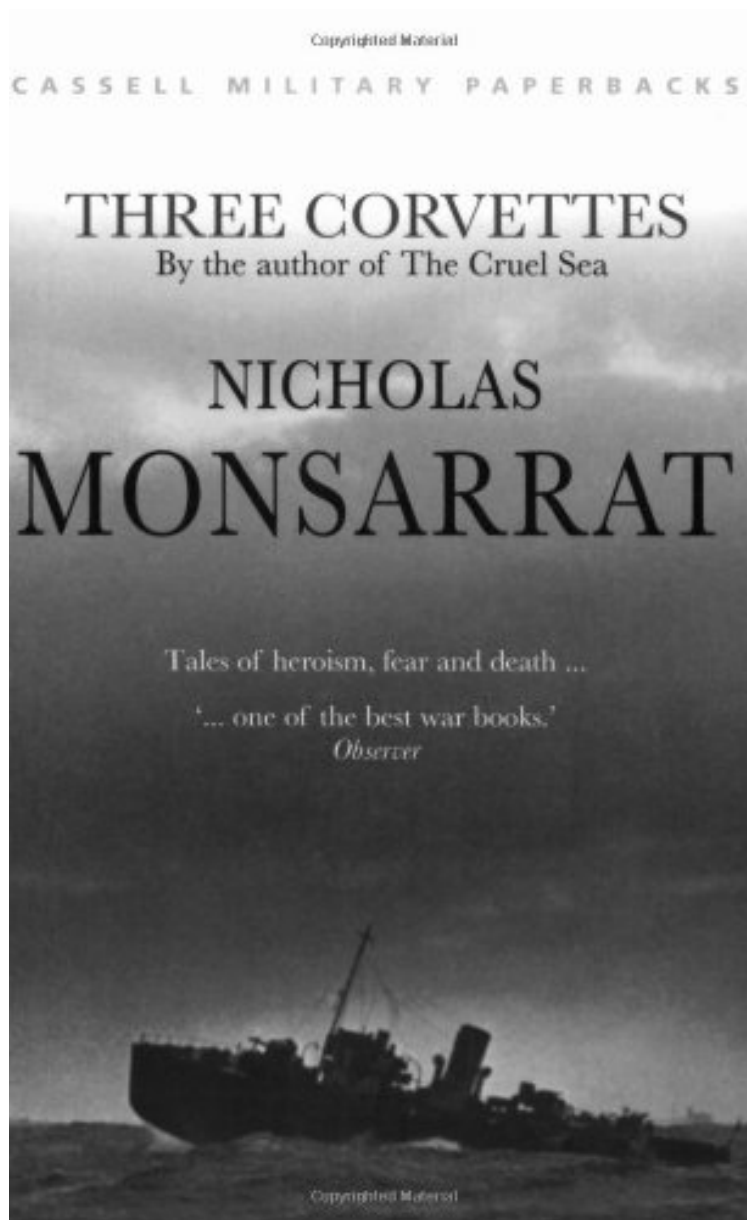


(Mobile pdf) Three Corvettes

## Three Corvettes

*Nicholas Monsarrat*

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**Nicholas Monsarrat : Three Corvettes** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Three Corvettes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is realityBy Woody 2Outstanding book. 3 Corvettes excellent auto biography of author's WWII experiences in small escort ships during the earliest part of the war when the RN

escorts were outgunned by German U-Boats. Material ultimately incorporated into author's "The Cruel Sea" which has been acknowledged as one of the best novels to come out of WWII war at sea. My copy included additional four short stories, which are fun reads, but do not nearly have the impact of 3 Corvettes. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful author, gripping "you are there" feel

By Thomas R. Dean  
I just finished this wonderful book. Like most, I suppose, I'd first heard of Monsarrat through "The Cruel Sea". This is a first person account, the text broken into three chapters (originally published separately during the War) according to the particular ship on which Monsarrat served, of his experiences on corvettes in the Royal Navy during World War II. The enormous pleasure given by the book is due: in part simply to the brilliance of the writing - the book is highly gripping whether or not at that moment there is anything "objectively" exciting involving the ship - and in part because the author is extraordinarily funny, insightful, sensitive, warm and smart! What a terribly funny book this is - something I hadn't expected at all - and yet there is much tragedy and much that is simply fascinating. The reader is truly there with the author on these corvettes - always the author has in mind, "What would the reader see, feel, smell, be moved by, if he were here with me right now on the deck of a corvette during the War?" Reading the book makes me terribly sad that Monsarrat has died - I'd love to have met him, seen him in interviews -- his sensitivity and charm and absolutely brilliant humor are just so evident. What a wonderful man. You'd love this book - I did.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The War at Sea- A First Hand Account  
By HMS Warspite  
"Three Corvettes" is a compilation in one volume of three shorter accounts by author Nicholas Monsarrat of his time at sea with the British Royal Navy during the Second World War. The three accounts, "HMS Corvette", "East Coast Corvette", and "Corvette Command", are arranged chronologically around Monsarrat's progression during 1940-1943 from newly-minted Sub-Lieutenant to battle-hardened Lieutenant in Command of a corvette. The collection constitutes an eye-witness account of the Allied convoys in the Battle of the North Atlantic, a story that Monsarrat would tell in thinly fictionalized but more complete fashion in "The Cruel Sea", published well after the war. The three accounts were published in piece-meal fashion during the Second World War, out of Monsarrat's fear that he might not survive the fighting. The accounts reflect wartime censorship with respect to names of ships, tactics, and exact times and places; they are not meant to be a precise history. Monsarrat more than makes up for this lack of historical rigor by his keenly observant eye and equally keen understanding of human nature. "Three Corvettes" is a gripping story of very human sailors struggling to be professionals in a task that was by turns boring and terrifying, requiring the extraordinary endurance to function under harsh conditions of weather and sea and enemy attack. This book is highly recommended to the casual reader seeking an exciting account of the Second World War at sea, and to the historian seeking an authentic taste of the experience of the convoys.

Nicholas Monsarrat, unquestionably the best writer on sea warfare during World War II, saw the horror firsthand as a frigate captain in the British Navy. In dramatic, vivid language, this unforgettable collection records the terrible years between 1940 and 1943. It includes the autobiographical *It Was Cruel; A Ship to Remember*, about the sinking of the *Lancastria* in 1940 (3,000 men lost their lives); and *I Was There*, *HMS Marlborough Will Enter Harbour*, and *The Ship That Died of Shame*--three short fictional pieces.

About the Author  
See description above. After the war, Monsarrat's career as diplomat and novelist took every twist and turn in the book. He died of cancer in 1979 and was buried at sea from a destroyer, off Portsmouth.