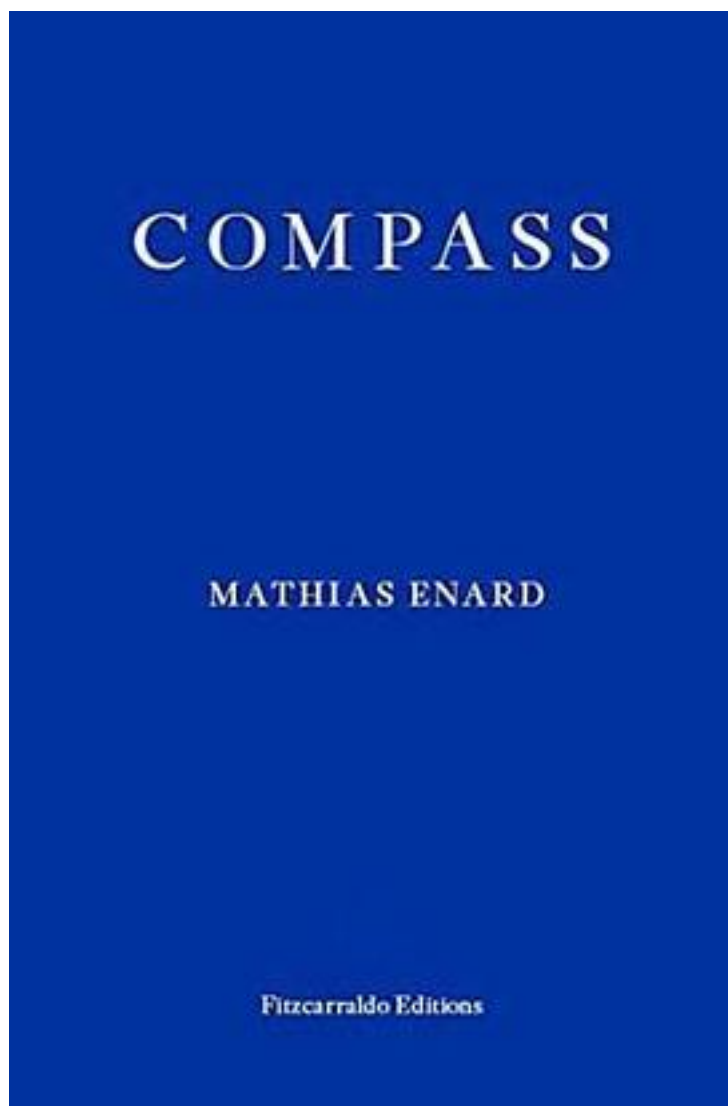


# Compass



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著者:Alan Gurney

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The fascinating and disaster-strewn history of the search to perfect the essential navigational device.

This book chronicles the misadventures of those who attempted to perfect the compass, an instrument so precious to sixteenth-century seamen that, by law, any man found tampering with it had his hand pinned to the mast with a dagger. From the time man first took to the seas until only one thousand years ago, sight and winds were the sailor's only navigational aids. It was not until the development of the compass that maps and charts could be used with any accuracy; even so, it would be hundreds of years and thousands of shipwrecks before the marvelous instrument was perfected. And its history up to modern times is filled with the stories of disasters that befell sailors who misused it.

In this wonderfully written book, Alan Gurney brings to life the instrument Victor Hugo called "the soul of the ship."

作者介绍:

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