



# Rowing into the Son: Four Young Men Crossing the North Atlantic

*Jordan Hanssen*

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“Truly an epic of adventure and perseverance, this is great inspiration for anyone who thinks of someday tackling the impossible.” -- New York Times best-selling author Clive Cussler

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\* Traces the struggle of the only American team competing in the first ocean rowing race from New York to England

\* The four young rowers spent 72 days pulling across the ocean

\* Author leaves for another cross-Atlantic adventure in December 2012

On June 10, 2006, college friends Dylan LeValley, Greg Spooner, Brad Vickers, and Jordan Hanssen stepped into a 29-foot rowboat as the only American competitors in the first North Atlantic Rowing Race, pulling across the northern ocean.

From the first dreams of race planning to heaving through ocean waves, *Rowing Into the Son: Four Young Men Crossing the North Atlantic* takes the reader along with team Outdoor Adventure Racing (OAR) Northwest as they head out from New York Harbor, catch the Gulf Stream current, and make the final dramatic push for the finish line, a narrow 50-mile wide “gate” at Bishop’s Rock Lighthouse off the coast of Cornwall. Hurricane-level winds, giant eddies, passing freighters, flying fish, and sharks are all elements of the journey, and the race comes to a tense head on day 17 -- with another 55 days to go -- as the crew realizes their food supplies are running out and they must drastically restrict their eating.

This is lead rower Jordan Hanssen's intimate account of team OAR Northwest's journey, set against the backdrop of Hanssen's reflections on the teachings of both his stepfather and his biological father, who passed away many years previously. How Hanssen and his teammates cope within the confines of their tiny ocean rowing boat and their determination to push their limits will keep readers enthralled in this remarkable true tale of coming-of-age and adventure.

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