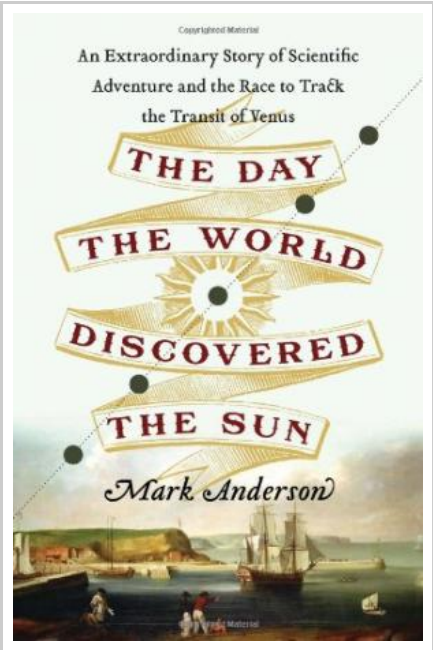


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The Day the World Discovered the Sun: An Extraordinary Story of Scientific Adven

By Anderson, Mark.

DaCapo. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. On June 3, 1769, the planet Venus briefly passed across the face of the sun in a cosmic alignment that occurs only twice in a century. Anticipation of the event sparked a competition among various nations, each sending their own scientific expeditions to dangerous and far-flung destinations to time the Venus transit and glean the physical dimensions of the solar system, a benchmark that could help refine such navigational puzzles as measuring longitude at sea. Mark Anderson's fast-paced narrative chronicles three such voyagesto the heart of the Arctic, to the New World, and to the Pacificthat risked every mortal peril in a candlelit age. "A scientific adventure tale in which astronomers risk their lives, traveling the high seas in winter, trekking over ice-bound Siberia and facing deadly diseases. A lively, fitting tribute to 'mankind's first international "big science" project'."Kirkus Reviews 280.

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