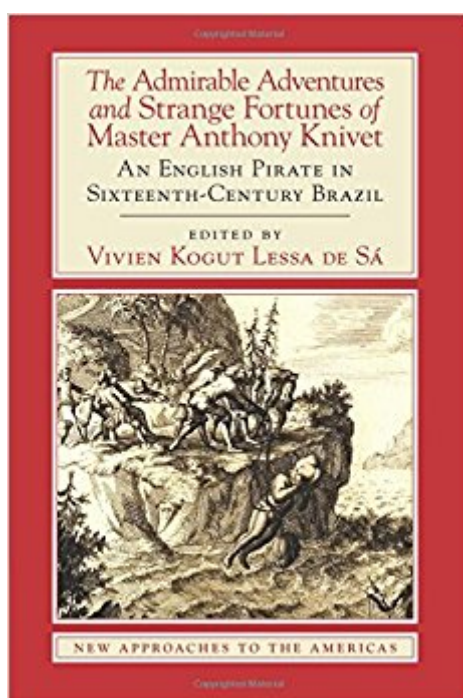


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The Admirable Adventures And Strange Fortunes Of Master Anthony Knivet: An English Pirate In Sixteenth-Century Brazil (New Approaches To The Americas)



Synopsis

This is the first critical edition of the original 1625 travel account by Anthony Knivet, an Englishman who spent nine years in Brazil in the last decade of the sixteenth century. His is the oldest extensive account of Brazil written by an Englishman, but despite its historical, geographical, and ethnographic relevance it has never merited an annotated (or even a separate) edition in English. This edition, which includes a detailed introduction and extensive notes, aims at enabling the English-speaking public to follow Knivet's compelling tale. The account describes Knivet's incredible adventures, experienced roughly between 1592 and 1601, which include working as a drudge for the governor of Rio de Janeiro, escaping into the hinterland to live with native tribes and joining in expeditions of conquest and gold-seeking. The story provides a unique insight into early colonial Brazil and the myriad of people occupying its territory: Portuguese settlers, mixed-race servants, Indians, slaves, and European travelers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The story of Anthony Knivet ranks among the most remarkable travel adventures in the sixteenth century ... In Vivien Lessa de Sãf's outstanding edition, Knivet's neglected account appears with invaluable critical annotation for the first time, together with a superb introduction that sets the work in historical and ethnographic context. We are in her debt for recovering an important but neglected figure whose experience and observations establish him as worthy of serious attention from students and scholars of Renaissance travel." Daniel Carey, National University of Ireland,

Galway" Vivien Kogut Lessa de SÃfÂ's edition of Anthony Knivet's Admirable Adventures makes a hugely important contribution to travel writing studies in general and to our understanding of sixteenth-century Brazil. Her knowledge of the Brazilian context, based on Portuguese sources, is matched by her original research on the English background and by her nuanced reading of the complexities of Knivet's text. This superb edition will remain authoritative for many decades." Peter Hulme, University of Essex "An essential text for understanding colonial Brazil, and early modern travel writing more generally, Knivet's astonishing account is now finally accessible to experts and newcomers in a scholarly edition worthy of the original's importance." Hal Langfur, author of The Forbidden Lands: Colonial Identity, Frontier Violence, and the Persistence of Brazil's Eastern Indians, 1750-1830

Anthony Knivet's Admirable Adventures is the earliest detailed description of Brazil written by an Englishman. His account gives unique firsthand glimpse into the land and people of early colonial Brazil, including descriptions of native tribes and local habits given for the first time.

Reads rather like the adventures of Flashman, except rather grittier - quite good overall.

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