

DEAD RECKONING

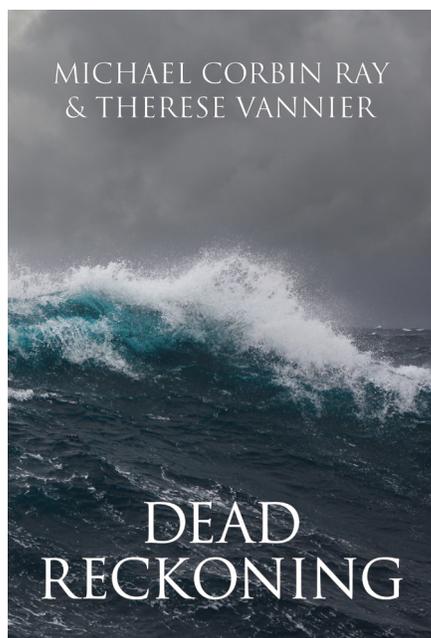
BY MICHAEL CORBIN RAY & THERESE VANNIER

Scheduled for release on the 97th anniversary of the disaster at Honda Point.

“A captivating maritime story,
both subtle and dramatic.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

FICTION / HISTORICAL



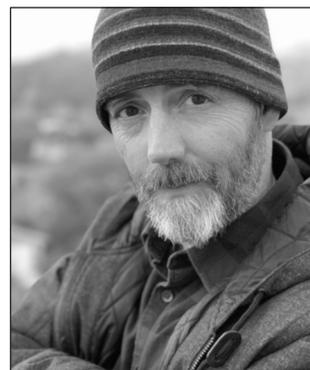
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ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1923, SEVEN SHIPS OF the U.S. Navy’s Destroyer Squadron 11, led by Commodore Edward H. Watson on board the flagship *USS Delphy*, bore full speed into a treacherous section of California coastline informally known as Honda Point. Traveling south in single file “follow the leader” formation, the ships were attempting a turn into the Santa Barbara channel at night in heavy fog. They missed by several miles. One after another, in a span of just minutes, the destroyers jammed themselves to the rugged rocks that would be their fate. It was among the worst peacetime disasters in Navy history. As a story of failed leadership, blind pride, and malfunctioning chain of command, it remains as relevant today as ever.

Dead Reckoning is a work of fiction inspired by these true events. The book follows the lives and passions of a group of enlisted sailors on liberty as their paths cross with an anxious diplomat recently returned from Japan. When that diplomat turns out to be a friend of their own captain, a series of minor conflicts and unrelated incidents builds to sudden tragedy and a night on the water that no man will forget—if they can first find a way to survive.

About the Authors



Michael Corbin Ray and Therese Vannier live in California not far from the turn of the coast that has sunk so many ships over the years. They are the authors of one other novel, *The Long Way*. They can be reached through their publisher, Baaa! Press, for interviews and signings.



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