



A
D
WE



CONTENTS

Prologue

Flushing out the Enemy, 1

One

War Stories, 9 • “Join the Navy, See the World,” 15 • The Sea, the Sea, 23 • On the Road to Nowhere, Moving Fast, 30 • Fly Boy, 35 • Man o’ War’s Man, 42 • Dead as a Doornail, 48 • A Very Smart Ship, 51 • A Flower, a Sunburst, a Star, 58 • The First Death, 63 • Into the Drink, 66 • Trouble Board, 67 • War Games, 73 • When Pigs Can Fly, 82

Two

“The Girl for Me,” 91 • “Of Course I Will,” 97 • Courtship, 104 • Safe House, 110 • Lifeboat, 118

Three

So Much to Lose, So Much Already Lost, 131 • Magic Bullet, 138 • On the Day I Was Born, 141 • “Hide Your Tears,” 148 • House Hunting, 154

Four

Secret Code, 161 • Command Center, 173 • The Sailor Who Flew Home on Wings of Air, 179 • A Knock at the Door, 185 • Just a Very, Very Few of the Many, Many Who Have Died, 192 • Rage, 200 • Chasing Ghosts, 207 • Ship's Model, 218 • Mopping Up, 222 • Cargo Cult, 231

Five

Coming Home, 237 • The Evening News, 246 • The Last Time My Father Almost Died, 249

Epilogue

Wearing My Father's Bones, 255

Acknowledgments, 265

Sources Consulted, 267