N. Jay Young’s “A Ship’s Tale” is a grand adventure story, one in which a group of sailors steal the proud square rigger Bonnie Clyde before she is due to be scuttled in the English Channel. Set in 1946, the novel details the sailors’ attempts to thwart the British Admiralty and Scotland Yard as they rely on sympathetic public opinion to aid them in their struggle to save the ship.

Young’s novel received a positive review from esteemed newscaster Walter Cronkite, who invited Young and his wife to his 90th birthday party. Author Clive Cussler, actor Alan Arkin, and accomplished America’s Cup sailor Gary Jobson have also weighed in with complimentary feedback.

“None of that would have been possible without Dragon NaturallySpeaking,” Young says. “‘A Ship’s Tale’ would still have been an idea in the back of my mind.”

Young is a 42-year veteran of the music industry, an audio engineer who has worked for Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, Stephen Stills, and many others. His first job involved pushing equipment through the mud at Woodstock in 1969. (“That was not as glamorous as people remember it,” he quips.)

In 1976, though, he became a quadriplegic when a crumbling sea wall rained a piece of concrete on him while he was at the beach. He ended up in a wheelchair with limited use of his arms, although his fingers didn’t work. He spent many years getting his writings typed by recording them, and asking friends to transcribe them for him. That was a hit-or-miss process, and he began to get frustrated.

Then a friend let him know about Dragon, and he began using it when version 5 came out in 2000. “It was a life-changing event when I used Dragon for the first time,” he recalls.

Young spent his early years sailing, then enlisted in the Navy and haunted shipyards where he learned a lot of history from older sailors. He drew on that experience when he began writing “A Ship’s Tale” with Dragon. Now there is interest in adapting the story to film.

Today, he continues to promote his novel, available at www.ashiptale.com, Amazon, and publisher Boson Books. He is putting the finishing touches on a second book called “Lone Wolf.” For his second novel, Young has drawn on his Native American roots. He found it simple to teach Dragon Native American words so they would be recognized the next time he used them.

Dragon is also an integral part of his day-to-day life, helping him with e-mails, letters, and other forms of correspondence. “When I turn on my computer every morning, the first thing I do is load Dragon,” Young says.

About Nuance Communications, Inc. Nuance Communications is a leading provider of voice and language solutions for businesses and consumers around the world. Its technologies, applications and services make the user experience more compelling by transforming the way people interact with devices and systems. Every day, millions of users and thousands of businesses experience Nuance’s proven applications. Dragon speech recognition software gives computer users complete voice control of their digital world. With Dragon as a personal assistant, computer users can accomplish more on their PC or Mac than they ever imagined possible.

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