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LIFE Titanic: The Tragedy That Shook The World: One Century Later



Synopsis

One hundred years ago, a ship thought to be indestructible suffered the ill fate to strike an iceberg during its maiden voyage across the North Atlantic. The unthinkable occurred, and the Titanic went to the bottom. What happened on that cold and inky night has haunted and entranced us ever since. Goodness knows, there have been other disasters-far too many disasters. But as the initial reception to Titanic, the most popular movie ever, just now being re-released in 3-D, proves: There has never been a disaster that so captivates the human imagination as that of the sinking of the Titanic. Now, on the 100th anniversary of "the night to remember," LIFE revisits this awesome human drama. Heroism is involved, and hubris. Romance and recrimination. A thousand stories spiraling outward-and all of them told in this commemorative LIFE book, in words and pictures. This oversized, deluxe book is visually splendid and exciting on every page. It includes archival photography, past reporting in LIFE and the modern-day explorations of Robert Ballard and others that inspired the James Cameron film. The book will include a special section on the new 3-D treatment of the classic movie, just now being released. We return to first-person accounts, and the words of the survivors are brought to life-with many small stories from steerage told as well as the large, well-known drama from above decks. The book will also include interstitial chapters to lend context, such as a history of famous shipwrecks, and where the Titanic fits in the grand picture. At the end of the story, the fact we entered with is inescapable: The Titanic tragedy is the one we care about, and need to revisit.

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Customer Reviews

I bought this at Barnes & Noble for 30 bucks. I resisted because that's a ton of money for only 140 pages, but it looked too good to pass up, and none of the other Titanic books had this many photographs of the actual ship and its passengers and crew. So I bought it, and I am forced to admit that while it's not worth 30 dollars, it's ALMOST worth 30 dollars. It is a great book, an excellent, informative, wide-ranging take on this most famous of maritime disasters. I've been interested in the Titanic since...well, you know, a certain movie, the same as everybody else...and found this to be the best illustrated book I've found. (The best word-heavy book on the Titanic is the collection of survivors' accounts in the Senate inquiry that came out in the 1910's. I can't remember what it's called offhand, but the cover is blue. That should help you find it) There are tons of pictures, reprinted in large scale so you can see lots of detail, and many little details often missed in past accounts, including several pages devoted just to what happened to individual survivors, all fully illustrated with photographs. It covers everything from the ship's construction to the heroic acts of the captain of the Carpathia, to the various movies and books that have flooded out of the disaster since day one. I really don't think you're likely to find a book on the Titanic that covers this much ground. Yeah it's too expensive, but what the heck, go for it; this is the 100-year anniversary of the sinking. Do you think you'll be around for the 200?

What impressed me:- This coffee table book has many fascinating illustrations, including diagrams of the ship and large-format photos of varying quality. Among the most interesting and haunting photos are those taken by Father Browne, a priest who disembarked in Ireland before the final leg of the journey and whose negatives were not discovered until the 1960s.- The concluding sections of the book tell the stories of many of the victims and survivors, as well as the global reactions, investigations, memorials and impacts on safety regulations and society. What was disappointing:- For a book marking the 100th anniversary of this legendary tragedy, I found the text to be lacking and, at times, jarringly glib. I expected more comprehensive explanations and the copy editing was sub-standard. The writing was composed of nuggets of information scatter-shot through the chapters.- The color of the text on some pages was a pale taupe color on white, making it difficult to read in some lighting.- The books jacket is not high-quality enameled paper, so the cover illustration is not as impressive as it could have been.

Having purchased many books on the Titanic and read a lot via the web, I was excited to see this "new" book offered. Unfortunately, a lot of it pertains to the same old archives already published,

making its title a bit off. I had hoped to see more photos and details of the actual wreckage but there's not much to see or read. Oh well, it is worth the bargain price but not more than that.

Nothing but a rehash of everything that's been published in the past. I picked up the paperback version at the local grocery store (\$12.99) and should have looked through it before I bought it. Based on the title (...."One Century Later"), I thought maybe it would have a lot more recent dive photos, but they just picked a few of Cameron's photos and that was it. A few artifact photos, but no significant discussion on those either. 90% of the book went through archival photos and the story of the sinking. So I was rather disappointed with the content as I was expecting something different based on the title. It's a typical Life book, the photos are more the star than any text to tickle your mind. And it is chock full of the vintage photos of the ship, the people, and the times. The prose is nicely written and it does a good job of telling the story in a very basic way, but to any Titanic buff with a zillion books on their shelves, this is a waste of money. If you are looking for a good coffee table book, purchase Titanic: An Illustrated History by Don Lynch and Ken Marschall. Titanic: An Illustrated History

This book is the "DIAMOND" of my collection. Buy it, read it, you won't be sorry. This book is worth more than the price and it IS A COLLECTABLE!! Thank you for a stupendous book. They don't make them like this anymore!!!! In as much for those who don't hold this book with due regards, I suggest you view the link below as it comes highly valued. <http://origin.smartertravel.com/photo-galleries/editorial/rms-titanic-commemorations-around-the-world.html?id=145&all=1> In addition, cat if you don't want this book, rather than throw it out, I have a 93 y/o in a nursing home who would love to have it.

I have been interested in all things Titanic for the past 20+ years, so I was excited to see that this new book had been released---and by what I had considered to be a reputable publishing company. However, I was grossly disappointed. There were some interesting facts interspersed throughout the narrative, but as a whole, I found the text juvenile, flippant, and shockingly cheeky. The writing was terrible, the editing and proofreading were beyond lacking, and there were certain pictures that were blown up bigger than they should have been and, thus, appeared pixelated. Additionally, I was horrified during some parts when the authorial tone almost took on an air of wry humor. A book memorializing such a sad and mournful event should not, in any way, come off as sardonic, especially when talking specifically about the fate of the deceased passengers. I gave it two stars,

instead of one, because it did have some interesting facts and some enjoyable photography, but overall, it was a disappointing and shameful tribute to such a tragedy that should be remembered with respect.

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