

Titanic: An Illustrated History

By Donald Lynch

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A popular gift volume featuring dozens of meticulously accurate, full-color paintings--including a fold-out illustration of the whole *Titanic*--offers a wealth of information about the "unsinkable" cruise ship and its fatal voyage. Reprint.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
The tragedy of the *Titanic* has been captured in fiction, nonfiction, music, poetry, cartoons, official judicial inquiry, survivors' recollections, still photography, TV shows, and film; all of the above are covered to some extent in this good and popular book. But few *Titanic* books match the paintings by Ken Marschall, a specialist on the subject whose work can be found in other books by the ship's discoverer, Robert Ballard, who wrote the introduction here. The photos are notable--including shots of the red-paint-stained iceberg that may have caused the sinking, the pristine ship, the sunken wreck, the people involved in the case--but Marschall's dozens of large-scale paintings really do help to dramatize and explicate moments no camera glimpsed and few eyewitnesses agree upon.

There is much to recommend the text, too. You could make a movie just about Second Officer Charles Lightoller, who helped accelerate the lifeboat-launching process, saving lives; stepped off the ship's bridge into the Atlantic; was sucked down into a ventilator taking in water, vainly swimming against its suction; and then got expelled by a blast of air, like a human cannonball in a circus, and landed next to a lifeboat that had been knocked 20 feet clear of the sinking ship's deadly whirlpool by a huge ship's funnel that crashed into the waves nearby. Lightoller was marvelously clever in his courtroom interrogation by an attorney determined to maneuver him into admitting blame for the disaster.

There is much more history in between the dramatic illustrations, facts both grand and trivial--if you're bent on knowing what actually happened to the dogs aboard, the answer is in this book. Definitely one of the better titles dealing with *Titanic*. *--Tim Appelo*

From Library Journal
No ship has continued to capture the public's imagination like the White Star Liner R.M.S. Titanic. The events that unfolded on Sunday, April 14, 1912 have been told in many books, including such works as Walter Lord's A Night To Remember (LJ 10/15/55) and Robert D. Ballard's Discovery of the Titanic (LJ 1/88). Lynch (historian, Titanic Historical Society) and artist Marschall have collaborated in this latest history of that fateful event. Combining photographs, stunning paintings, and a gripping text, they have provided, as Ballard states in his introduction, the next best thing to a visit to the Titanic. Lynch raises interesting questions that may never be answered: Most tantalizingly, should First Officer Murdoch, on watch on the bridge during the 60 seconds between the sighting of the iceberg and the collision, have given different commands? This latest history of one of the sea's greatest tragedies is a visual tour de force that will please both general reader and maritime history enthusiasts. Essential for all libraries.
- Harold N. Boyer, Marple P.L., Broomall, Pa.
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Review
Paintings by Ken Marschall blend with Lynch's survey to tell the story of the Titanic's rise and fall. Now available in paper is a dramatic recording of the ship's construction, history, and wreck, including highlights of its discovery. -- *Midwest Book Review*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cora Gallien:

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David Giles:

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