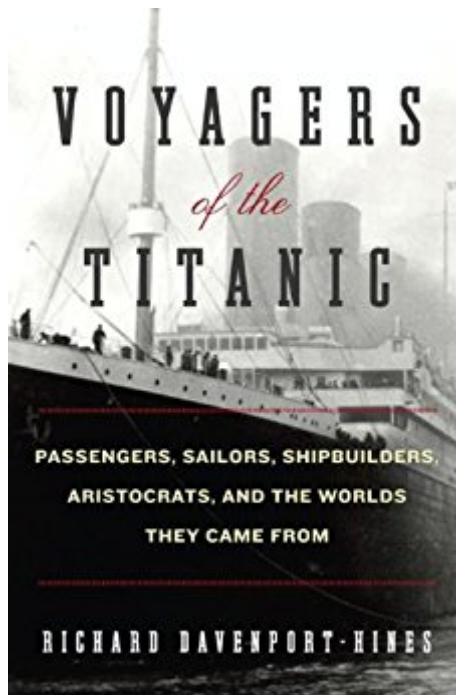




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Voyagers Of The Titanic: Passengers, Sailors, Shipbuilders, Aristocrats, And The Worlds They Came From



Synopsis

“An astonishing work.”—Julian Fellowes, Creator and Executive Producer of “Downton Abbey”
“A book well worthy of marking the centenary of the crystal-clear night when the immense ship slid to her terrible doom.”—Simon Winchester, New York Times bestselling author of *The Professor and the Madman*
It has been one hundred years since the sinking of the passenger liner Titanic in the North Atlantic, yet worldwide fascination with the epic tragedy remains as strong as ever. With *Voyagers of the Titanic*, Richard Davenport-Hines gives us a magnificent history of the people intimately connected with the infamous ship—from deal-makers and industry giants, like J.P. Morgan, who built and operated it; to Molly Brown, John Jacob Astor IV, and other glittering aristocrats who occupied its first class cabins; to the men and women traveling below decks hoping to find a better life in America. Commemorating the centennial anniversary of the great disaster, *Voyagers of the Titanic* offers a fascinating, uniquely original view of one of the most momentous catastrophes of the 20th century.

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Customer Reviews

This book offers information to clarify or refute some of the romantic folklore that has grown up around the story of the Titanic. The ethnic group with the greatest representation among the Titanic's passengers, taken as a whole, were the Scandinavians. The English passengers outnumbered the Irish passengers. The Titanic had as many lifeboats as the average passenger vessel of the time, and more than some, although certainly not enough to accommodate all her passengers and crew. The third class passengers had cabins of their own, in many cases, and were served from a menu by third class cabin stewards. The most poorly accommodated class on board were the crew members whose duties were not directly related to passenger service, who lived communally and ate what was given to them. If, in an ideal scenario, the ship had been evacuated with great efficiency and in perfect order, without the condemning rule of "women and children first", and if they had had more lifeboats, they still would have needed to bring the passengers who were closest to the lifeboats up to the decks, load the boats, lower the boats, and then move the next group forward. They had only two hours to evacuate some 2000 people, and the time was limited by the necessity of persuading people of the danger, getting them out of their cabins with some of their possessions, getting them into life jackets, etc. At the outside limit of time, the ship was listing badly, which would also have reduced the possibility of rescuing more passengers. Statistically, a greater proportion of first and second class male passengers would have survived and a greater number of passengers altogether would have survived, but the third class passengers, in the lowest decks, would still have had the disadvantage (as even today, people who pay the least for tickets on a cruise ship have lower deck cabins). The crew would have suffered the greatest casualties of all, because other than the officers assigned to the lifeboats, the vast majority of crew members could not take place ahead of the passengers. The book raises the question of why a greater proportion of second class male passengers died than third class male passengers. I would guess it was a result of their social standing and the position imposed on them by the mores of the time specifically related to the question of saving the women and children ahead of all others. The first class men were often independently wealthy or had social connections to protect them and the third class men were laborers who could work wherever they found themselves, but the bank clerks, grocers, and small entrepreneurs of second class depended a great deal on the good will and patronage of the upper classes to survive. It meant more to them to maintain a good reputation, and avoid being seen as cowards and villains. They had no choice but to hold back and hope things were not as bad as they seemed. The accident came at a unique time in history, and was highly politicized. That may be why it still has its fascination and its hold on American culture.

Incredible, The Story of the Titanic is such a sad story for everyone who was on that ship. Even the ones who survived had MAJOR PROBLEMS afterward. Like PTSD eventhough there was no name for it then.

Im loving this book; I heard the author interviewed so I knew it wasn't going to be just another rehash of the horror that night. There is a good deal of interesting history about the people that traveled across the ocean in the early 1900's, with names that are still well known today. Talk about the 1%, and income inequality, "twas ever thus"!

Well written and well documented. Fascinating stories of those on the Titanic from many walks of life. Recommend it to anyone interested in Titanic history from a personal standpoint.

With all the books, movies, etc. regarding the Titanic, this was outstanding. It was well written and researched and straightened out many of the myths and stories that have swirled around this event. The book is written by an English author and, while he did an excellent job with the facts, he does get a bit preachy in the final chapters. But for Titanic addicts, this is a great read.

wonderful read which makes the mores and personalities of a different Age come pulsating to life! Beautifully written, too.

Ehhhh...just okay. It wasn't detailed enough for me. To be fair, I'm a big history buff, and details are everything to me. I would rather have read detailed information about fewer families/people than a bunch of tidbits. For example, the book briefly mentions Violet Jessop, by briefly, I mean it mentioned her name, that she was a crew member, and that she survived. What it doesn't say is that Violet Jessop survived the sinking of the Titanic, she was on the Olympic when it collided with another ship, and she was aboard the Brittanic when it was torpedoed and sank in WWI, which she also survived. She was on board Titanic and BOTH of it's sister ships, and survived both sinkings and a collision. What the &\$%* would they leave that information out? Talk about fascinating...that's fascinating information. Part of the fascination with Titanic for many people, as well as myself, are personal stories. I can get a list of the names of the people that died online. If that's all the information I wanted, I wouldn't have bought the book. This book fell short in my opinion

I've read many books and this one gave some new perspectives and introduced me to individuals other than the well-know people that are a part of the story.

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