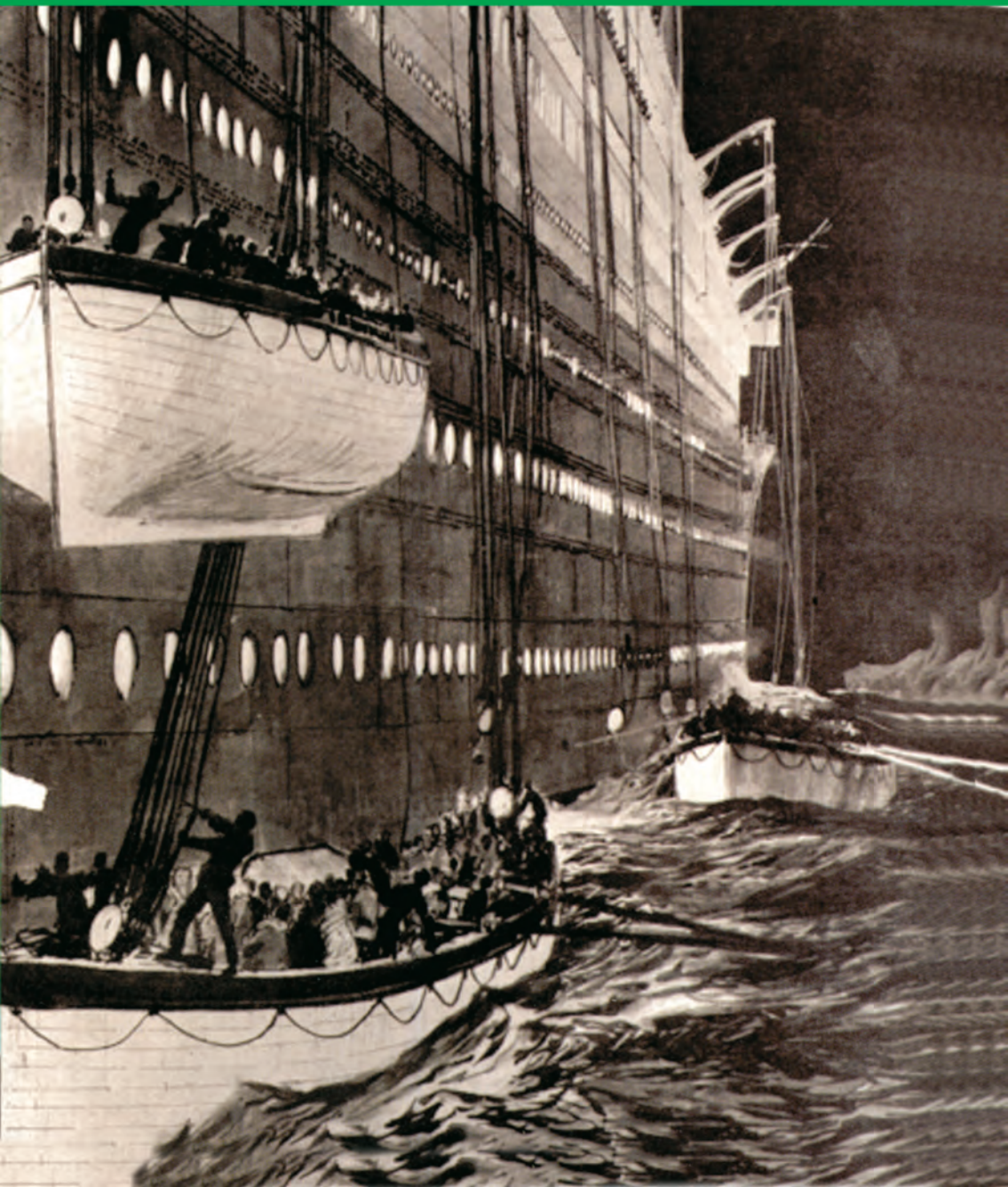


Titanic!

Paul Shipton



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What's the book about?

How much do you already know about the *Titanic*?

- 1 In 1912, the *Titanic* was the biggest ship ever built. How long was it?
 - a 269 meters (882 feet)
 - b 149 meters (489 feet)
 - c 328 meters (1,076 feet)
- 2 How many people died on the *Titanic*?
 - a 500
 - b more than 1,500
 - c 250
- 3 Where was the *Titanic* traveling to?
 - a Southampton
 - b Nova Scotia
 - c New York
- 4 There were more than 2,200 people on the ship. How many people could the lifeboats carry?
 - a 2,278
 - b 1,178
 - c 1,923
- 5 How many third-class passengers died?
 - a 10%
 - b 25%
 - c 75%
- 6 Which ship picked up the people who were still alive?
 - a the *Carpathia*
 - b the *Olympia*
 - c the *Californian*
- 7 After the accident, when was the *Titanic* seen again?
 - a 1985
 - b 1959
 - c 1995
- 8 How many Oscars did James Cameron's 1997 movie *Titanic* win?
 - a 5
 - b 8
 - c 11

What happens first?

Look at the title of Chapter 1. What dreams do you think these people had? Make notes.

Rich passengers in first class	
Poor passengers in third class	
The ship's builder	
The ship's owners	

The Ship of Dreams

*The ship could carry more than 3,000 passengers,
but it only had lifeboats for 1,178 people.*



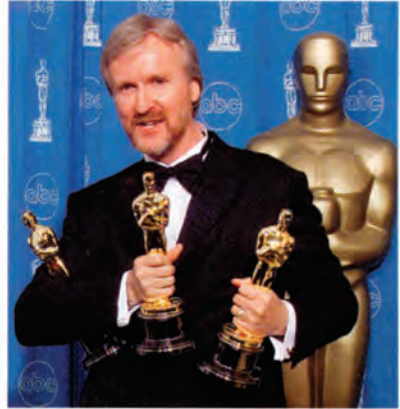
The king of the world!

James Cameron was the big winner at Oscar night in Los Angeles in March 1998. His 1997 movie was named Best Picture, winning ten other Oscars, too. As Cameron held up the Oscar, he repeated a famous line from the movie: "I'm the king of the world!" He later joked that "size does matter."

It was a dream that Cameron had for a long time. He loved history and he was always interested in the story of the *Titanic*. Cameron's early movies—for example, *The Terminator* and *Aliens*—were full of action. *Titanic* had plenty of action, too. Cameron chose two young actors for this.

Leonardo DiCaprio played Jack Dawson. Born in 1974, DiCaprio was first seen on TV at the age of five. He became famous in the 1990s with movies like *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?* and *This Boy's Life*. Work on Cameron's *Titanic* was long and difficult for DiCaprio.

Kate Winslet played Rose. The British actress was also born in 1974. Winslet was not interested in small parts in Hollywood movies. She wanted to act in the theater. But soon Kate was in the biggest movie that was ever made.





While Cameron was making the movie, not everybody was so sure about its success. It took a long time to make the movie. As it continued, the cost went up and up. It finally cost between \$185,000,000 and \$200,000,000. The movie's opening was changed from summer of 1997 to December. Many newspapers and magazines wrote stories about the movie like "*Titanic Sinks*."

Titanic was more expensive than any other movie:

- For the first part, Cameron filmed the real *Titanic* at the bottom of the ocean. He had to go down to the ship in a **submarine** twelve times.
- Cameron filmed most of the movie on a **model** that was almost as big as the *Titanic*. He wanted everything on the ship to be like the real *Titanic*. Clothes, furniture, machines—everything had to be exactly right.

Not all newspapers and magazines liked the movie. One called it "dead in the water." But people around the world loved it. The world's most expensive movie became the biggest success. It earned over \$1,600,000,000!

sink /sɪŋk/ (v) to go down below the water

submarine /'sʌbməˌrɪn, 'sʌbmə'rɪn/ (n) a ship that can travel underwater

model /'mɒdl/ (n) a small copy of something that is going to be much bigger

Titanic!

Paul Shipton

American English

Original

On the night of April 14, 1912, the *Titanic* hit an iceberg and sank. This is the full story. Why did the *Titanic* sink so quickly? Why did so many people die? What are the stories of all those people, young and old, rich and poor?

Number of words (excluding activities): 5,676

Series Editors: Jocelyn Potter and Andy Hopkins

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Titanic!

Paul Shipton

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ISBN 978-1-4058-8449-5



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