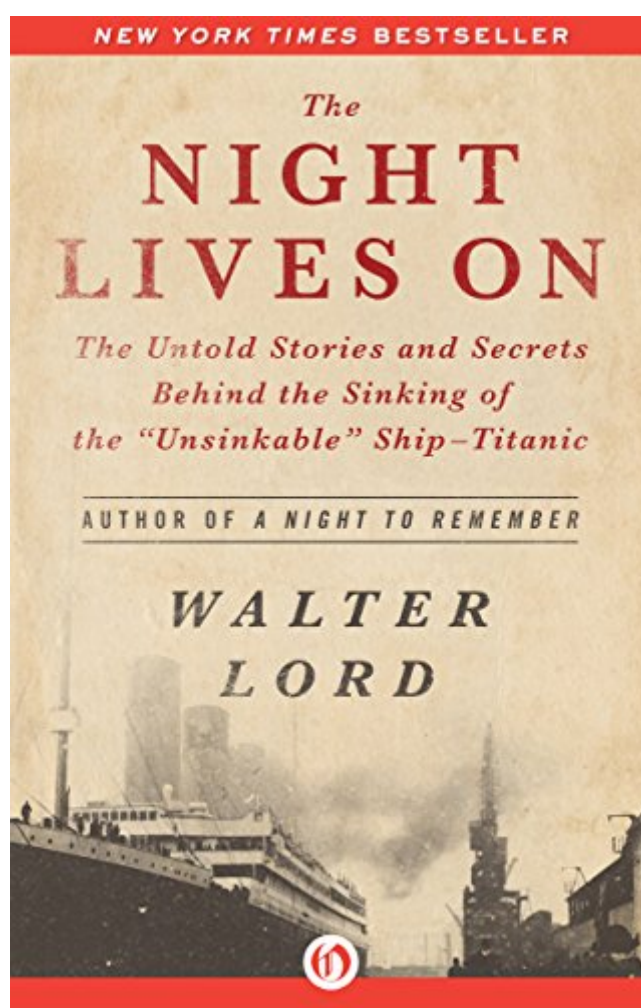


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# The Night Lives On: The Untold Stories And Secrets Behind The Sinking Of The "Unsinkable" Ship-Titanic



## Synopsis

Three decades after his landmark work *A Night to Remember*, Walter Lord revisits the Titanic. Years after *A Night to Remember* stoked the fires of public interest in the doomed RMS Titanic, the clamor for details about April 14, 1912, has not abated. As die-hard professional and amateur historians—œrivet counters,• they are called—puzzle over minute details of the ship’s last hours, a wealth of facts and myth have emerged. Revisiting the subject more than thirty years after his first study, Lord dives into this harrowing story, whose power to intrigue has only grown a century after the Titanic’s sinking. Was the ship really christened before setting sail on its maiden voyage? What song did the band play as water spilled over the ship’s bow? How did the ship’s wireless operators fail so badly, and why did the nearby Californian, just ten miles away when the Titanic struck the iceberg, not come to the rescue? Lord answers these questions and more, in a gripping investigation of the night when 1,500 victims were lost to the sea.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Calling this 'the sequel to *A Night to Remember*' is slightly misleading. Rather than the storytelling style employed to relate the story of the sinking of the Titanic, this is almost a collection of 17

1-chapter essays about various points of the disaster. Excellent stuff, but if you were expecting, say, the story of the Congressional and Parliamentary investigations of the disaster, you need to look elsewhere, e.g. Wyn Craig Wade's *The Titanic: End of a Dream*. "Unsinkable Subject" - Overview of the popular fascination with Titanic. "What's in a Name?" - The actual launching of Titanic from Harland & Wolff's shipyards. "Legendary from the Start" - Titanic was indeed popularly supposed to be unsinkable, but the trend of sacrificing safety features for competitiveness had actually taken hold during her design. "Had Ships Gotten Too Big for Captain Smith?" - Explores Smith's record, including a near-collision in harbor with Titanic's sister ship, the Olympic. "Our Coterie" - The group of first class passengers, including Col. Gracie, mentioned in *A Night to Remember*. "Everything Was Against Us" - Contrasts the ice warnings, lack of coordination between radio room & bridge, and lookouts, with the notion that the accident was a one-in-a-million chance. "The Gash" - The collision itself. "I Was Very Soft the Day I Signed That" - How and why ships the size of Titanic could legally sail while carrying so few lifeboats. "What Happened to the Goodwins?" - Facts and figures about 1st class vs.

In 1955, Walter Lord's *A Night To Remember* was published and instantly became the definitive book on the sinking of the ocean liner Titanic in April 1912. Just over thirty years later and following the discovery of the Titanic two and a half miles below the surface of the North Atlantic, Lord's follow-up to it was published. *The Night Lives On* goes beyond that "night to remember" to look at the events that came before, during and after it. To do this Lord brings a lot of focus to the book. While *A Night To Remember* focused very much on the sinking itself by wandering from person to person and place to place, *The Night Lives On* uses each of its seventeen chapters to focus on any single particular aspect of the Titanic story. The opening chapters of the book look at what led up to the sinking ranging from the ship's legacy, its launching in 1911, a look at Captain Smith's record prior to taking command of the Titanic and the actions of the crew leading up to the collision with the iceberg. This is of course prelude to the main event: the sinking. Chapters seven through twelve focus on the sinking itself. Topics range from the collision with the iceberg, the reasons for the lack of lifeboats and the question of why so many third class passengers died in relation to others on the Titanic (including the entire Goodwin family for whom the chapter is named for) and why some passengers saw the ship sink intact while others saw it break in two (a long held belief shattered when the wreck was found in 1985).

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