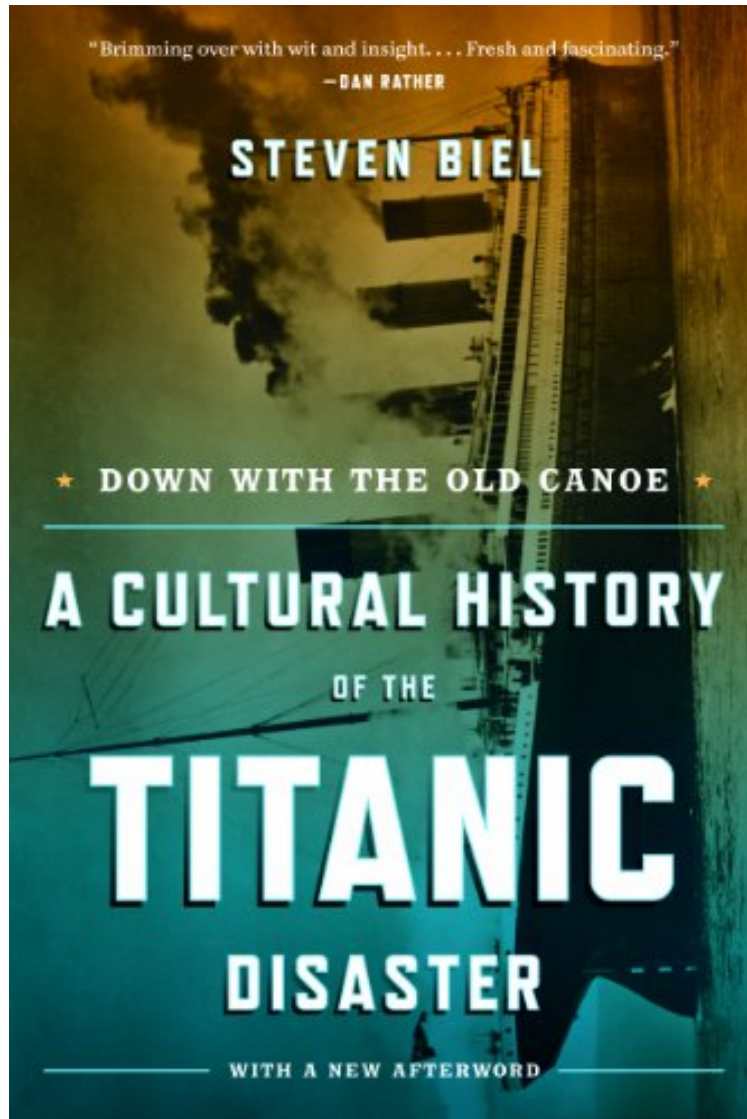


(Mobile book) Down with the Old Canoe: A Cultural History of the Titanic Disaster (Updated Edition)

Down with the Old Canoe: A Cultural History of the Titanic Disaster (Updated Edition)

Von Steven Biel

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Von Steven Biel : Down with the Old Canoe: A Cultural History of the Titanic Disaster (Updated Edition)
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Down with the Old Canoe: A Cultural History of the Titanic Disaster (Updated Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A clever look at society's reaction to Titanic's sinking Von Ein Kunde This is one of the few Titanic books currently in print

which does more than rehash the same old sinking story. Instead, it looks at the reaction of society to the greatest marine tragedy of all time. The success of Biel's book hinges on his meticulous research and thorough reporting of his findings. One chapter examines how the New York press reported the tragedy in the days following the sinking. Many authors are content to re-state what the New York Times said (accurately reporting that the ship had sunk), and what the New York Sun said (inaccurately reporting "All Saved From Titanic After Collision"). Biel digs deeper, and presents a range of reactions that vary from honest, dedicated journalism to wild speculation. Biel's also examines how the Titanic affects us to this day. His analysis of Titanic movies such as "A Night to Remember", "Titanic" (1953), and "Raise the Titanic" give the reader a new perspective on these often-overlooked films. More than cinematic re-tellings of the sinking, they reveal the feelings and values of the people who made them. Although it is not the most exciting of novels, it is a brave work that, like prospectors looking for gold, successfully finds new material in a world of tired, re-hashed, and looked-over facts.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Historically accurate but dramatically lacking
Von Ein Kunde
"Down With the Old Canoe," is a detailed rendering of the sociological impact of the Titanic disaster, from the time of her sinking to modern day "enthusiasts." Harvard educated Biel seems to want to include every tidbit and piece of trivia he can find on the impact the sinking had on the day-to-day lives of the world's populace. He accurately chronicles the delay in America of women being given the right to vote; tying that decision into the chivalry shown by the male victims of the sinking. No sermon given on the evils of wealth for wealth's sake is left unmentioned as it pertained to the millionaires who lost their lives. Modern day "enthusiasts" and their reasons for being so enamored of the lost vessel are explored in depth, and make for fascinating reading. But Biel, himself, remains aloof from the subject; he never even attempts to connect, personally, with his subject. In the final chapters, he reveals that had been his intention: to not cast his person in the book itself. That aloofness; that lack of "first-person" gives "Down With the Old Canoe," a strange dichotomy. At times (especially in those areas dealing with the modern enthusiasts), it is as fast and entertaining a read as a current issue of Time, Newsweek or People magazines. At others, the story Biel attempts to relate is as dry and dull as attempting to read a term paper. Titanic aficionados will enjoy this book; others may want the more thrilling "A Night To Remember."

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Historical context (and then some) for the "Old Canoe"
Von Ein Kunde
Steven Biel writes with a detail and depth of knowledge of his subject. The disaster becomes a touchstone for aspects of popular American culture, a prism through which various 20th century concerns are seen, even as Titanic-as-metaphor becomes increasingly mythic and removed from the actual event.

Kurzbeschreibung
"Brimming over with wit and insight
Fresh and fascinating." Dan Rather
Everyone from suffragists to their opponents; radicals, reformers, and capitalists; critics of technology and modern life; racists and xenophobes and champions of racial and ethnic equality; editorial writers and folk singers, preachers and poets found moral and cultural lessons in the sinking of the Titanic. In a new edition that both commemorates the one hundredth anniversary of the disaster and elaborates, in a revised afterword, on the ship's continued impact on the public imagination (evidenced by the Titanic mania evoked by James Cameron's 1997 film), Steven Biel explores the Titanic in all its complexity and contradictions.

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The largest movable object ever constructed by man when it was launched, the supposedly unsinkable Titanic has inspired novels, songs, poetry, movies, and even a mysterious black stoker named Shine who never existed on the actual ship. Steven Biel traces all these avatars and explores the social and cultural myths that the disaster gave rise to--and destroyed. The recent attempts to raise the Titanic's wreckage have demonstrated that the myths have not lost their power.

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