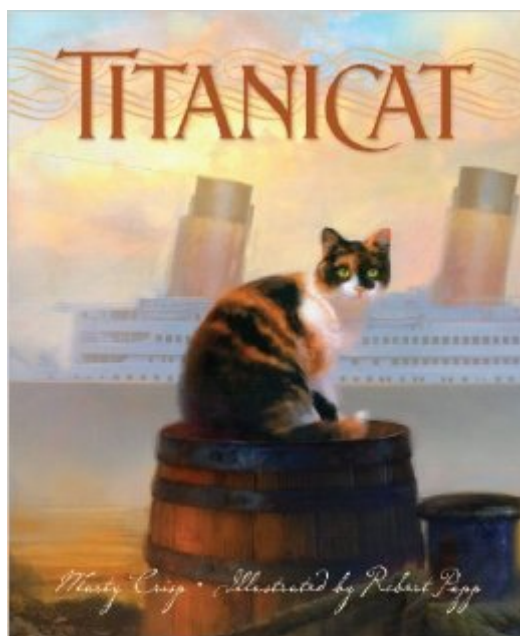


The book was found

Titanicat (True Stories)



Synopsis

Young Jim Mulholland can't believe his good luck: He has signed on as a cabin boy to the world's finest ocean liner, the Titanic, and can't wait for the history-making voyage across the sea to America. As part of his duties Jim is in charge of the ship's cat, a beautiful tortoiseshell that also appears happy to be on board. He calls the cat by the ship's construction number, 4-0-1, certain that she will bring him good luck. And he's delighted when 4-0-1 shortly gives birth to a litter of kittens. But once the ship's trial runs are completed and it's ready to launch to sea, Jim notices that 4-0-1 is nowhere to be found. He's got to find her-the Titanic can't cast off without her lucky cat. Jim is faced with a decision that will affect the rest of his life.

A newspaper journalist for 30 years, Marty Crisp often writes about the animals that hold a special interest and place in her heart. She has published many award-winning books for children and adults, including *White Star*, her book about a dog on the Titanic. Marty lives in Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Robert Papp's award-winning artwork includes hundreds of illustrations for major publishers across the United States, and his first children's book, *The Scarlet Stockings Spy*, was named an IRA Teachers' Choice in 2005. His other books with Sleeping Bear Press include *The Last Brother* and *M is for Meow: A Cat Alphabet*. Robert lives in historic Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 770L (What's this?)

Series: True Stories

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press (June 5, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1585363553

ISBN-13: 978-1585363551

Product Dimensions: 11 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #108,489 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Drama & Theater](#) #69 in [Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Boats & Ships](#) #103 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Customer Reviews

Written by veteran journalist and award-winning author Marty Crisp, and illustrated by Robert Papp (whose awards include one sponsored by Cat Writers Association!), *Titanicat* is a beautiful children's picturebook based on the true story of the ship's cat of the doomed Titanic. A young man named Jim befriends the ship's cat and her litter of kittens; when Jim observes the cat acting strangely, and carrying her kittens off of the Titanic just before its departure, he must make a split-second decision whether to stay on board or bring her the last kitten of her litter. Disturbed by the ill portent of her distress, he leaves the ship at the last second and adopts the cat family - only to learn much later how narrowly he escaped drowning at sea. An author's note at the end tells of the true events that inspired the story - when the Titanic ship's cat got off in Southampton, taking her kittens with her, a superstitious young sailor followed. The soft, realistic color illustrations bring the heartwarming tale to life; cat lovers of all ages are sure to love *Titanicat* for its superior quality artwork.

This book is at risk of languishing if it doesn't find the right audience. The picture book format these days might draw in only the PK-K crowd consistently. With kids growing up faster and earlier, even 1st- and 2nd-graders might turn their young noses up at picture books for being too "kiddie". The "serious" cover, cute cat notwithstanding, could further dampen kid appeal. That would be a shame. The art is gorgeous, and the story, wonderful and kid-friendly with just enough of a mystery tinge and a satisfying ending. Marty Crisp wrote the "dog" Titanic book that was very successful, and there's no reason why this shouldn't be either - except *White Star* was a chapter book! So parents need to pick up this book for kids in Gr. 1-3, and maybe ask THEM to read it back to the parents. The vocab is just challenging enough for such a task. If they get a chance to better understand this mysterious cat, they, too, will become engrossed.

My six year old is so interested in learning everything he can about the Titanic. Given that he is six we try to limit what he sees. This is a fabulous book that was informative and fun for our whole family. As he said, "Now I know the whole story!"

I bought this book along with *Kaspar, The Titanic Cat*. Like *Kaspar*, this book is a great cat story set against the backdrop of the history of the Titanic ... two topics you wouldn't expect to find together.

Although I am an adult, I bought these books for me because I love cat stories. Of course this would be great for kids too. Loveable kitty character, interesting history, educational, great illustrations. I fell in love with Titanicat.

My son (8 yrs. old) bought this book for me as a gift for he knows I admire cats (and animals in general) and I am afraid of boarding a cruise so he hopes I can read more about the subject! To my relief, this is not a sad story as most of the Titanic inspired stories are but a very surprising and touching one, perfect for young readers ready to read longer paragraphs. The illustrations are amazingly realistic - the hues on the cherubic young lad's cheek, the sparkles of the new litter of kittens' eyes - so lively on the pages that I was transported inside a children's book art gallery staring awe-struck at these pictures. Reaffirmed is the mystery of a mother's instinct to foresee danger to protect their youngsters; reaffirmed is the common belief that the cat does bring luck to their human friends. This Titanicat is a beautiful book to recommend.

This was a great book to go along with our Titanic study. The story was very interesting to my younger kids and beneficial to me because it was educational as well as entertaining. The book was easy to read and the illustrations were very detailed. The binding of the book has held up well. The pages were very sturdy and not easy to tear.

This book's story is based on a true account and that gives added specialness to it's very good tale. As an artist, I purchased the book because, from the beauty of its cover, it was clear to me that the illustrator, Robert Papp, is an extraordinary painter. When the actual book arrived I was totally blown away by the rich, vivid color, dynamic layouts and exceptional draughtsmanship throughout... The way he portrays young Jim Mulholland, the lead character, brings him to life and makes him immediately lovable and believable. My hat is off to this amazing artist, I admire his work so much and it truly makes the story shine! The book is also beautifully printed and is a perfect size for showing the art and story at its very best. A delightful book to own and to share - A child would love it as well as the adult who may be reading it to him.

A small little kids book, not even 40 pages, but a very sweet book. The story is taken from a supposedly true story of a ships cat called 401. A good introductory book for kids about the Titanic and her ultimate fate.

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