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Lawrence Beesley

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The Loss of the S.S. Titanic

IT'S STORY AND
ITS LESSONS



LAWRENCE BEESLEY
'A SURVIVOR'

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#4931566 in Books 2013-10-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .27 x 7.001, .49 #File Name:
1493631837118 pages | File size: 40.Mb

Lawrence Beesley : The Loss of the S.S. Titanic: It's Story and its Lessons before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Loss of the S.S. Titanic: It's Story and its Lessons:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A first hand account of the Titanic sinkingBy VanceLawrence Beesley was an English school teacher on his way to the US on a holiday and survived the disaster of the Titanic. He wrote his book and it was published within eight or nine weeks after the sinking. The book has an even handed tone that explains how he handled himself after the collision and how he got onto a lifeboat with lots of detail about the ship, the accommodations, cabins, activities, etc. He was in his cabin reading when the ship struck the iceberg went out to see what was going on. He went back to his cabin got dressed more warmly, put on his life jacket went back to

the deck where the lifeboats were being loaded he got on one. Only 8% of second class men survived the sinking, the lowest rate of all passengers and crew on board. Anyone with an interest in the Titanic should read this book. Beesley lived to be 89 and died in 1967.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good First Hand Account for Titanic Buffs By Thomas O. Phippen This is a great read for Titanic enthusiasts. I'd say it's best meant for people with intermediate or advanced knowledge of the Titanic's story. Keep in mind this was written in 1912 only weeks after the sinking, so modern day discoveries/evidence were not yet unveiled (like proof of the ship's breaking in two, which Mr. Beesley contests it sunk in tact - and his suggestions for post maritime law changes, which hadn't quite yet been put into place), to a certain degree you need to put yourself back 105 years. It's good to hear an account from a well educated man, a science professor, so soon after the event while the memory is so fresh (as opposed to elders recollecting events from so many decades later, when they were a child). Mr. Beesley takes you on a journey from setting sail, through the collision, evacuation, and rescue on the Carpathia. You almost feel like you are there; and while there are many well put together and interesting documentaries, it doesn't take you on a journey a read like this can do. I was on the verge of giving this a five star rating, but decided on four because this is a view from one perspective, and at times Mr. Beesley seems pretty well set of how things transpired, another witness might give a slightly different point of view (he does note this however). All in all, devote your time into reading this, it's well worth it!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Insightful and timely account by someone who was there. By Randy T Truly amazing story from one of the survivors- written in 1912 just months after the disaster. Beesley was educated (Cambridge) as a science teacher and his observations and analysis are insightful although imperfect - Beesley strongly disbelieved other's accounts about the ship breaking in half, which of course was proved when the wreck was discovered. On the other hand the clear intelligent account looks at the disaster from a number of perspectives - some based on personal and published interviews of others present. Interestingly, he ends with an analysis of ways future occurrences might be avoided including an idea that prefigured sonar using mechanically induced sound waves and early hydrophones.

The Loss of the S. S. Titanic Its Story and its Lessons By Lawrence Beesley One of the Survivors The history of the R.M.S. Titanic, of the White Star Line, is one of the most tragically short it is possible to conceive. The world had waited expectantly for its launching and again for its sailing; had read accounts of its tremendous size and its unexampled completeness and luxury; had felt it a matter of the greatest satisfaction that such a comfortable, and above all such a safe boat had been designed and built the "unsinkable lifeboat"; and then in a moment to hear that it had gone to the bottom as if it had been the veriest tramp steamer of a few hundred tons; and with it fifteen hundred passengers, some of them known the world over! The improbability of such a thing ever happening was what staggered humanity.

About the Author Lawrence Beesley (1878-1967) retired from his position as a science teacher in England when, at age thirty-four, he boarded the S.S. Titanic to go for a holiday in the States. He had been recently widowed and left at home his young son. His account of the epic disaster is widely regarded as one of the fairest and most comprehensive of its kind. Beesley was later portrayed in the classic Titanic film A NIGHT TO REMEMBER.