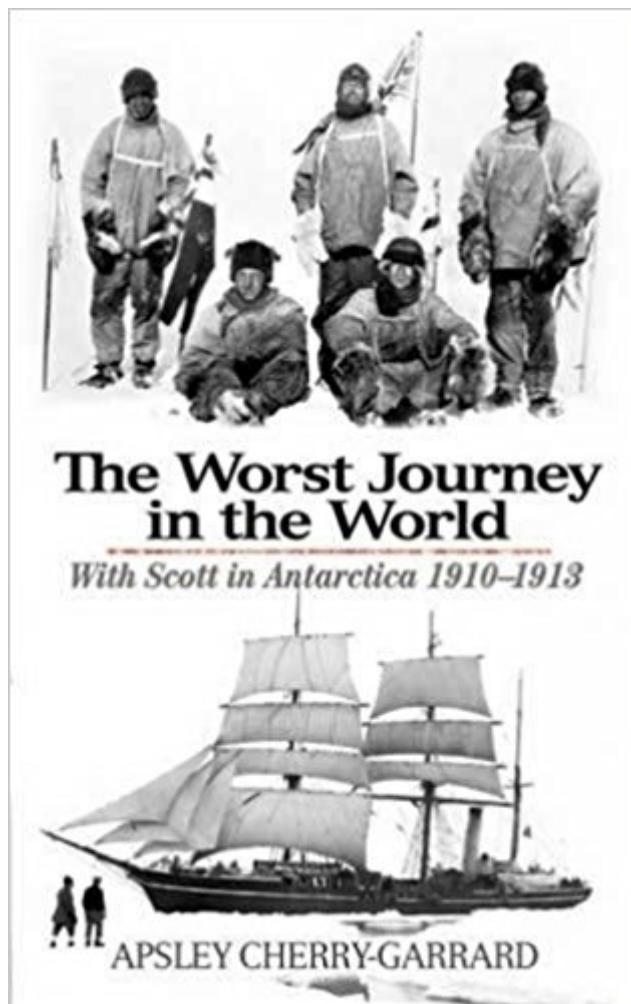


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The Worst Journey In The World: With Scott In Antarctica 1910-1913



Synopsis

"The Worst Journey in the World is to travel writing what War and Peace is to the novel . . . a masterpiece." *The New York Review of Books* "When people ask me, 'What is your favorite travel book?' I nearly always name this book. It is about courage, misery, starvation, heroism, exploration, discovery, and friendship." *Paul Theroux* National Geographic Adventure magazine hailed this volume as the #1 greatest adventure book of all time. Published in 1922 by an expedition survivor, it recounts the riveting tale of Robert Falcon Scott's ill-fated race to the South Pole. Apsley Cherry-Garrard, the youngest member of the party, offers sensitive characterizations of each of his companions. Their journal entries complement his narrative, providing vivid perspectives on the expedition's dangers and hardships as well as its inspiring examples of optimism, strength, and selflessness. Hoping to prove a missing link between reptiles and birds, the author and his companions traveled through the dead of Antarctic winter to the remote breeding grounds of the Emperor Penguin. They crossed a frozen sea in utter darkness, dragging an 800-pound sledge through blizzards, howling winds, and average temperatures of 60 below zero. This "worst journey" was followed by the disastrous trek to the South Pole. Cherry-Garrard's compelling account constitutes a moving testament to Scott and to the other men of the expedition. This new edition of the adventure classic features several pages of vintage photographs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Polar exploration is at once the cleanest and most isolated way of having a bad time that has ever been devised" wrote Apsley Cherry-Garrard in a deceptively jaunty introduction to this classic story

of bravery and fortitude first published in 1922. The story he relates is of Scott's last expedition to the Antarctic. From its departure from England in 1910 to its arrival in New Zealand in 1913, it is one of the most famous and tragic in the annals of exploration. Driven by an obsession for scientific knowledge, these brave polar explorers embarked on a journey into the unknown, testing their endurance by pushing themselves to the ultimate physical and mental limits as they surveyed the striking and mammoth land that lay far to the south. Cherry-Garrard was himself a member of the expedition that had two goals: to discover as much as was scientifically possible about the terrain and habitat of Antarctica, and to be the first to reach the South Pole. The party was plagued by bad luck, weather conditions of unanticipated ferocity, and the physical deterioration of the party on the last part of the journey. Confronted by the shattering knowledge that Roald Amundsen had reached the South Pole a month before them, Scott's party then had to negotiate the last, heroic part of their journey, a doomed attempt which has entered modern mythology. The Worst Journey in the World is the inside story of this most famous of journeys and is truly one of the best and most moving books of travel ever written. Join Scott's expedition as he and his team venture deep into the frozen unknown. This volume is the second in the continuing series of Explorers Club Classic books.

Apsley Cherry-Garrard (1886-1959) served as a biologist for the ill-fated Antarctic expedition. Haunted by his experiences, the English explorer suffered from clinical depression for the rest of his life and was encouraged by his friend George Bernard Shaw to write this memoir as a form of therapy.

I own several editions of this book; the rating is not for the work itself, which rates an unconditional five-stars, but for this particular edition. Please disregard this review if you are not bothered by typography issues, which is mainly the source of the criticism. I generally enjoy Dover publications, however this modification of Worst Journey is rather odd. The dates have mostly been Americanized (month/day instead of the original British day/month), and there are some quirks to the typesetting that I found interesting but probably not worth implementing. For one example: ship names are not italicized as is customary, but in an old book with lots of references to ships, this proves to be a little incongruous in appearance. Far more taxing to the eye is the abandonment of setting off long quotes in a paragraph of reduced size ~ which is the classical way of dealing with long quoted passages, and there are a LOT of these. The result of having long quotes look exactly the same as the narration is a fair amount of visual confusion regarding who is speaking. There is evidence that this may have been set on a word processor: among other things, small caps are not

true small caps but the faux version (reduced capitals), which is a giveaway of enthusiastic but, shall we say, amateur typesetting. I am all for simplification, but I think a work such as this is too intricate to deserve a streamlined format. So with respect I give it a "fair" rating, and suggest looking at other editions if you are a connoisseur of the Scott Expedition as I am. If not, then this edition will probably serve adequately for informational purposes, but perhaps without the appropriate mood of other versions.

Words fail me when I talk about the Heroic Age of the Antarctic explorations of the past century so to describe this and similar books I purchased here and read: "Endurance" (Shackleton's voyage of 1914-17); "Birdie Bowers - Captain Scott's Marvel

As one of the participants in the Terra Nova Expedition, Apsley Cherry-Garrard is more than qualified to write about it. He brings to life the events and adventures of the men of Scott's Expedition, the good things and the bad things, the dreary things and the exciting things. When he begins the book, "Cherry" seems to be angry, railing at the circumstances of the trip, but then he hits a stride and remembers the event rather than the emotion of it, which makes for much better reading. Relating the tale of the party waking at 2am to the sound of booming, realizing that the ice on which they are camped has broken off into floes and they are now on the way out to sea, the horses on the other floe, kind of give the reader pause. Cherry recounts the story of the rest of the day, the campers hop-scotching from one floe to the next, WITH horses, trying to make it back to shore, all the time watched by Orcas, with one eye out of the water, circling and waiting....can't get much more exciting than that....But it does! You'll just have to read it yourself and find out! Marion

The Worst Journey in the World has been called the one of the greatest travel book in English, and not just by me. At one time it was about to go out of print and was brought back from the edge of death by enthusiasts writing appreciations of it for magazines and newspapers. It is a fabulous, hair-raising page-turner about a group of intrepid Englishmen, part of the doomed Scott polar expedition, who rather breezily set off in the polar winter on a side expedition to the coast to get eggs of the emperor penguin for scientific study. Sub-zero temperatures! howling winds! crummy equipment! arctic darkness! stiff (literally) upper lips! They are all there.

the story itself is fantastic but this version of the book doesn't include the maps that are in the original version and are necessary to properly follow along their journeys. my advice is to make sure

you purchase a version with the maps in it. not this one. had this version had the maps I would have given it 5 stars.

Extremely interesting & very well written. I feel like I was there with them.

Aspects of quest for antarctic that got little noticed when Scott failed in his bid to be first at the south pole

what a story.

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