

# Titolie's Fatal Yoyage





## Titemies Fatal Voyage

#### by Kevin Blake

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BEARPORT

New York, New York

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Publisher: Kenn Goin Senior Editor: Joyce Tavolacci Creative Director: Spencer Brinker Design: Dawn Beard Creative

Photo Researcher: Editorial Directions, Inc.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Blake, Kevin, 1978- author.

Title: Titanic's fatal voyage / by Kevin Blake.

Description: New York, New York: Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 2018.

Series: Titanica | Includes bibliographical references and index. Identifiers: LCCN 2017045550 (print) | LCCN 2017046187 (ebook) | ISBN 9781684024902 (ebook) | ISBN 9781684024322 (library)

Subjects: LCSH: Titanic (Steamship)—Juvenile literature. | Shipwrecks—North

Atlantic Ocean—Juvenile literature.

Classification: LCC G530.T6 (ebook) | LCC G530.T6 B594 2018 (print) | DDC

910.9163/4—dc23

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2017045550

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For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10011. Printed in the United States of America.

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## ICEBERG AHEAD!

It was nearly midnight on April 14, 1912. Frederick Fleet, a **lookout** on the RMS *Titanic*, stared out into the dark ocean and starlit sky. His warm breath made white puffs in the **frigid** air. The water was so calm, it looked like glass. Then he noticed something. Was it mist on the water? Suddenly, a huge mountain of ice as tall as a six-story building appeared.



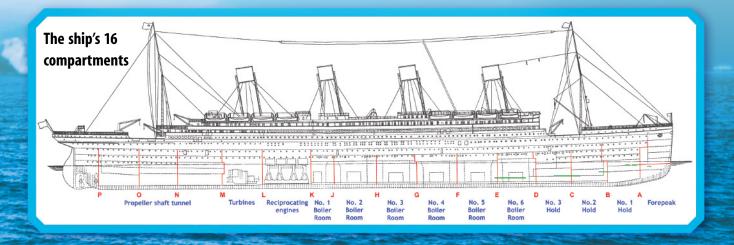
Frederick **frantically** rang a warning bell and called down to the officers steering the ship. "Iceberg, right ahead!" he yelled. The officers shut off the engines and steered the gigantic ship to the left as quickly as they could. The *Titanic* began to slowly turn—but it was already too late. There was a grinding sound as the ship scraped against the giant iceberg. One of the world's greatest **disasters** was about to unfold.

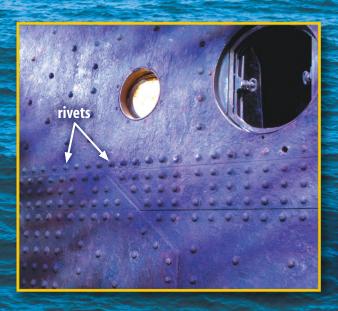
The Titanic struck the iceberg less than a minute after Frederick Fleet's warning.

### SHIP OF DREAMS

Five years earlier, the *Titanic* began as one man's incredible dream. His name was J. Bruce Ismay. As the **chairman** of the White Star Line, a British shipping company, Ismay wanted to create the biggest, fastest, and most luxurious ship the world had ever seen. J. Bruce Ismay At the time, the *Titanic* would be the largest moving object ever built!

It took two years and thousands of workers to carry out Ismay's vision. When the *Titanic* was completed, the huge ship was almost as long as three football fields and as wide as a four-lane highway. To make it extra strong, the bottom of the ship's **hull** was covered with two layers of **steel** plates. In addition, there were 16 **compartments** inside the *Titanic*'s hull, each separated by a special door. If water got into a compartment, the doors would stop it from reaching other parts of the ship. The *Titanic* was considered unsinkable.





Even if four of the compartments filled with water, the *Titanic* would still be able to float.

Three million rivets—
or metal bolts—
attached the steel
plates to the ship's hull.