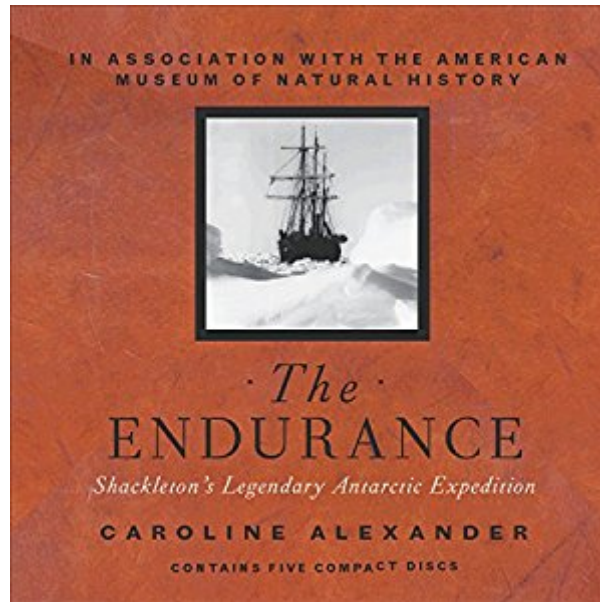




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The Endurance



Synopsis

In August 1914, renowned explorer Ernest Shackleton and a crew of twenty-seven set sail for the South Atlantic in pursuit of the last unclaimed prize in the history of exploration: the first crossing on foot of the Antarctic continent. They came within eighty-five miles of their destination when their ship, *Endurance*, was trapped fast in the ice pack, and the crew was stranded on the floes. Their ordeal lasted for twenty grueling months, and the group made two near-fatal attempts to escape by open boat before they were finally rescued. Drawing upon previously unavailable sources, Caroline Alexander gives us a riveting account of Shackleton's expedition. An extraordinary re-creation of the terrible beauty of Antarctica, the awful destruction of the ship, and the crew's heroic daily struggle for survival, *The Endurance* thrillingly describes one of the last great adventures in the brave age of exploration—perhaps the greatest of them all. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before I read Caroline Alexander's gripping story of Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic expedition, I thought the greatest story about survival at sea was Nordhoff and Hall's *Men Against the Sea*, the story of Lieutenant William Bligh and the eighteen men set adrift in an open boat in 1789 by the HMS *Bounty* mutineers. But compared to the *Bounty* crew, the *Endurance*'s men had an incredibly more difficult and dangerous experience, as the author vividly describes. In addition to the text, crewman Frank Hurley's remarkable photography really brings the story to life. Note: I referred to the *Bounty* mutiny in my review. Caroline Alexander, the author of *The Endurance*, also wrote *The*

Bounty: The True Story of the Mutiny on the Bounty, a book I've also read and can highly recommend.

This is an excellent photo and text over-view of the Endurance journey and the associated drama that followed its sinking. The photos are the key to this version of the story, giving something to the epic that words alone cannot give. I have long been fascinated by the Endurance expedition and this book is a "must have" to complete any collection of, or visit to, this story. The fusion of multiple versions of the story gathered from many different persons and the compilation of various types of data and historic sources also make this book a unique and special read. Though space and publishing would not allow inclusion of all available photos, one flaw might be that the author was not able to include more photos. I found this to be a great addition to a Shackleton/Endurance collection.

In the quest to cross the Antarctic Continent in 1914, brave-hearted soul Captain Ernest Shackleton and his twenty-seven man crew set sail on a perilous, nearly deadly journey. Less than 100 miles from their destination the "Endurance" became hopelessly trapped in an ice floe; slowly breaking apart. Their ordeal of living on this drifting berg for months, only to be stranded on a solid piece of land later for nearly two years is mind-boggling. The personal accounts of the crew members daily treacherous turmoils, coupled with an undefeatable and inspired leader (Shackleton) is devastating. Photographer Frank Hurley supplied some of the most breathtaking and dynamic pictures of the saga of the trip, one can only become overwhelmed with the enormity of the dilemma. It is simply too real and too heartbreaking. This beautifully crafted "coffee table" book is one of many released regarding the extraordinary plight of this team against nature. Although author Caroline Alexander borrows heavily from previous accounts and repeats some of the adventures from her earlier "Mrs. Chippy's Last Expedition", "Endurance" is the classic adventure tale of the last Century. A wonderful collaboration of writer/photographer, this makes a great gift. A 'beyond Hollywood' story that many have never heard, much less seen in this manner makes it extraordinary!

Shackleton and his men are one of my favorite TRUE stories of bravery and endurance. First, it was fortunate that the photographer was allowed to preserve some of his plates of the ship on the ice. Second, I read recently that within this last decade some people replicated the search party going to find the Russian fishing camp to get help for the rest of the men. These recent heroes were outfitted in the garb of skiers today with snowshoes and the best in warm clothing and, as I recall,

Shackleton's men made it faster, because it was a matter of life or death. I many have heard it incorrectly, but I don't think so. It makes a good story.

The Endurance is simply excellently told, and with captivating photography. I was stunned the first time I read it ... and, it has been a re-read every year, twice a year (at least once per hot summer and every cold January) since that first page turner. What a company of men, led by a resolute and ultimately fair individual, can do is astonishing ... and inspires hope (and humility). You will wonder at the predicament and cringe at the odds ...and then marvel at what ... and how ... they overcome them. Then, suffer right along with those left on the island ...The book chronicles the 'refuse to quit on even one man' efforts of Shackleton, who struggled against unimaginable hardships in the most inhospitable place on earth, in an effort to deliver His men to safety ... from what must surely be an unavoidable fate.The journey will astound you ... enthrall you ... have you re-reading pages to try to appreciate the magnitude of the circumstance ... and then have you shaking your head in awe. These men WERE made of sterner stuff.Shackleton was not a perfect man, but ... a perfect hero for that very reason. Our world could use more like him.I encourage you to try this book ... it will change your outlook ... on many things.Q.

Great book. Just as they described it. You get the real look at an extreme adventure that turned into a battle for survival.

This book will satisfy any desire to escape from the mundane existence we all endure. You get to journey with them, and the story will captivate you. I only wish there was an index, as all through the book I had to constantly thumb through previous pages to figure out who was who. There never is a list of who the crew is and who does what. This aspect has to be pieced together. The only shortcoming. Don't let that deter you. The photographs alone are worth the price, and the first and the final photograph (the same one) is quite remarkable for the insight the author provides. To get to know these men and their dogs is quite satisfying.

The most extraordinary adventure ever, brilliantly documented and described by the author. The large-format reveals the true beauty of the original photographs by Frank Hurley. And nobody died!

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