



White Star: A Dog on the Titanic

By Marty Crisp

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A simply-told, poignant tale of friendship and survival, set on history's most famous doomed ship!

The year is 1912, and twelve-year-old Sam Harris is traveling from England to America on the grand ship the Titanic. Sam is lonely at first, but is soon delighted to discover that there are dogs aboard! When Sam volunteers to help out in the kennel, he meets Star, a spunky Irish setter that belongs to the ship's captain. Sam and Star become fast friends, and when disaster strikes, the boy and dog must rely on each other more than ever before. The harrowing, breathless conclusion -- and fascinating historical information -- makes this boy-and-dog tale truly unforgettable.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5-8—A fresh approach to a popular topic that is both engaging and informative. Sam Harris, 12, is on his way to America to join his mother and new stepfather. A dog lover, he spends the bulk of his time aboard the *Titanic* in the ship's kennels and forms a strong attachment to the owner's dog, whom he names Star. Readers meet some of the other passengers and observe the strong friendship between Sam and Bucky, the friend who has helped him recover from the death of his father and loss of his mother (who moved back to America six years earlier). Life aboard ship is well described as is the sense of unreality when passengers first hear the call to lifeboats on the fateful night of the disaster. Unlike Eve Bunting's *SOS Titanic* (Harcourt, 1996), this story continues in the frigid waters as survivors struggle to stay afloat, as well as on the rescue ship *Carpathia* and back in New York. Sam, still numb from his ordeal, must deal with the anger of Bucky's mother when she realizes that Sam and the dog he loves have survived but her son has not. In a happy ending for Sam, he gets to keep Star and knows that he and his new stepfather are going to get along just fine. Back matter includes a map of the *Titanic*'s voyage, a time line, and biographical sketches of some of the real survivors and victims. A well-researched and competently executed story.—*Edith Ching, St. Albans School, Mt. St. Alban, Washington, DC*

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4-6. Twelve-year-old Sam Harris, a passenger on the *Titanic*, is excited to discover dogs aboard. After living with his grandparents in England for six years, he's understandably nervous about reuniting with his mother in America and meeting his new stepfather. Helping in the kennel brings a welcome distraction--especially when it comes to caring for Star, the Irish setter that belongs to the ship's captain. Star and Sam quickly bond, and when disaster strikes, the boy can't leave the dog behind. Sam is a sympathetic character, and Crisp weaves together fact and fiction as he paints a tragedy-laced survival story of two likable protagonists--a boy and a dog. Along with historical details and a nicely diverse cast of secondary characters, Crisp includes a map, a time line, a diagram of the ship, brief accounts of several real-life *Titanic* passengers, a reading list, and source notes. A survival story that will appeal to dog aficionados as well as kids interested in the tragedy. *Shelle Rosenfeld*

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About the Author

Marty Crisp is the author of several books for young readers, including "My Dog", "Cat", illustrated by True Kelley, which School Library Journal called a story for "true dog lovers". Crisp is fascinated by the mysteries and stories surrounding the Titanic and has made the ship's history her lifelong research project. She lives in Pennsylvania.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lorenzo Davis:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be update about what going on or data even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe may update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to

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Michael Rodriguez:

White Star: A Dog on the Titanic can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing White Star: A Dog on the Titanic nevertheless doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

Macie Tiffany:

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