

A Night to Remember by Walter Lord

(The *Titanic* “was 11 stories high and four city blocks long.” She was the largest, most glamorous ship in the world and was called “unsinkable.” She sank on her maiden voyage after hitting an iceberg. The year was 1912; there was a true class system foreign to us today. *A Night to Remember* is filled with true names (look up a few if you get a chance). First class citizens were the uber-wealthy. Being on the maiden voyage of the *Titanic* was a true status symbol in itself.

Chapters 1 & 2

1. What were general passenger reactions to the hitting of the iceberg?
2. How many compartments could fill with water and the *Titanic* remain afloat?
3. How close (in miles) was a ship that could have rescued those aboard the *Titanic*?
4. Name the ship.

Chapter 3

5. How many lifeboats were aboard the *Titanic*?
6. Collectively they would carry how many people?
7. How many were aboard the *Titanic*?
8. How many members comprised the band on the *Titanic*? What type of music was played by the band as the *Titanic* sank?
9. What was the significance of the *Titanic* sending an SOS?

Chapter 4

10. Women in first class were loaded on life boats first. What decision did Mrs. Straus (she and her husband established Macy’s) make? Would you ever make this decision (for anyone)? Explain.
11. Why did the Chief Officer and a few of the staff arm themselves?

Chapter 5

12. Why was a gun fired several times?
13. Most men behaved according to “gentlemen rules” of the day. Do you believe such rules would apply today? Explain.

Chapter 6

14. Define “davit.”
15. Did the captain shoot himself (commit suicide)?

16. The *Californian* was only 10 miles away. They saw the 8 flares and the lights disappear as the ship sank. How did they respond?

Chapter 7

17. Due to the sinking of the *Titanic* and the huge number of lives lost, name 4 changes made to sea operations.

Chapter 8

19. Eighteen lifeboats (only partially filled) floated in the water, while some distance away, 1600 went down with the *Titanic*. Cries for help came from the waters. How many boats returned to pick up survivors? How many people were pulled from the waters?

20. Name different ways people reacted in this tragedy. How do you think you would have reacted?

21. Which ship came to the *Titanic's* rescue? the *Carpathia* or the *Californian*?

Chapter 10

22. Where did the captain of the *Carpathia* decide to take the 705 survivors? Why did he not choose to transfer the survivors to the *Olympic* (which offered to take them on)?

23.