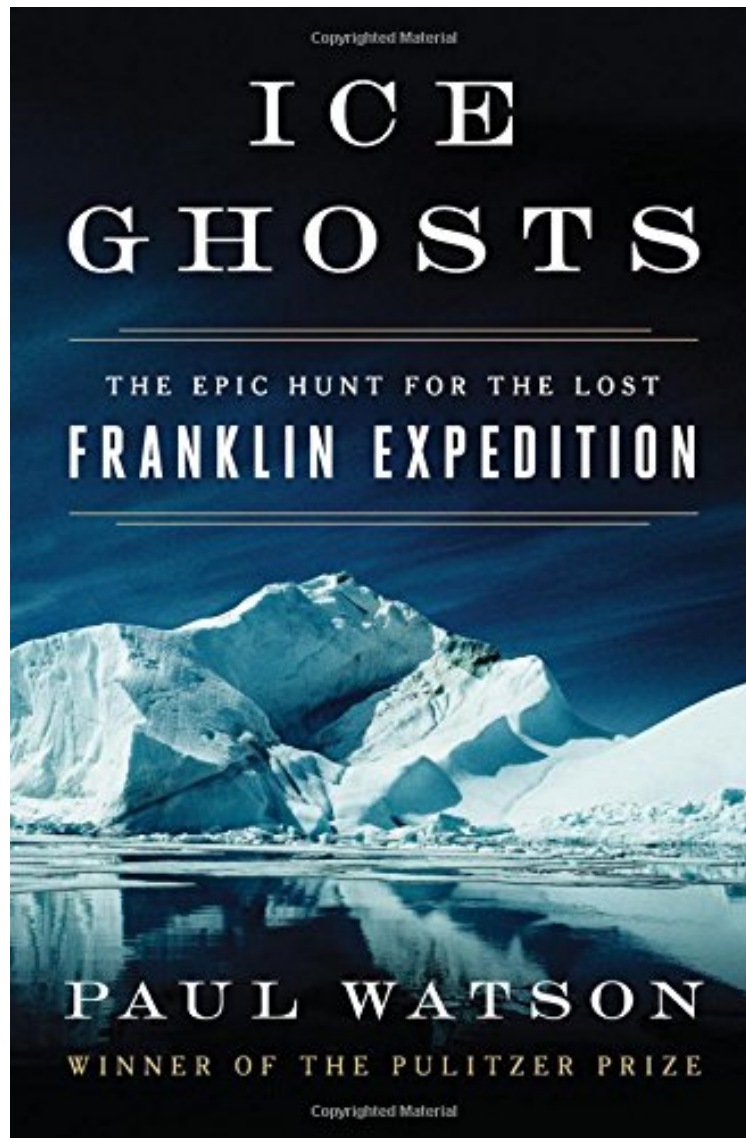


(Pdf free) Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition

Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition

Paul Watson

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Paul Watson : Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ice Ghosts: The Epic Hunt for the Lost Franklin Expedition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A little drawn out and slow going By Ian BA little drawn out and slow going for my liking. Quite repetitive and doesn't flow particularly well, but dos give a good insight to the man, his family and the Navy establishment of the time. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Recommended, but could be tightened up. By NorbertA good read and certainly a must-read for anyone interested in the latest on the

Franklin Expedition and the discoveries related to its fate. The book does have its weaknesses. Lively and well-written when discussing Franklin and then Lady Franklin's efforts to have him first rescued and then at least found, it does lose focus in the middle sections. Long rambling chapters tell you many mildly interesting things about Inuit life and Canadian policy which are not even remotely connected to the Franklin story; at times the book reads like a National Geographic article on contemporary Arctic Canada. But overall, the scholarship is solid, and once he gets back to the remnants of the expedition, the author's involvement with the topic makes for an authoritative account. 16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Only the Actual Franklin Expedition Was as Long a Slog By Wine Lover I enjoy reading about the Franklin Expedition, and with so much new news out since 2014 -16, and this book appearing just this year in 2017, I figured this would contain the latest information. In truth I was a bit suspicious that the author is a 'Winner of the Pulitzer Prize', which usually means 'this book is torturously overwritten', and sure enough, it was. Way too much unrelated detail; so much so that the account of the actual find of the Franklin ships finally appears to the exhausted reader on page 318 (of 346 pages of text), almost as an afterthought, and concludes only a few pages later. (Not to mention that there are only two photos of the finds -- a ship's bell and a ship's wheel -- nothing of any other artifacts or of the wrecks or underwater views.) To make up for the lack of visual leavening, we are lathered up with useless prose details: a helicopter (quite incidental to the story, by the way) is a 'red-and-white Messerschmitt-Blkow-Blohm Bo 105 ... a light-duty German helicopter developed in the 1970s'; a seaman is a 'quick-witted wisecracker with a gray goatee ... he could be mistaken for an unusually tall elf'; and the elf-seaman's grandfather (no less) 'specialized in buffing furniture to a mirror sheen in the art of French polish' and 'once scolded the future Queen Elizabeth II'. A few pictures really would be worth a few thousand words. And, in a quaint but somewhat inexplicably tone-deaf choice, Watson insists on referring to 'The Arctic' in the feminine, e.g., 'That was the plan. The Arctic, as she usually does, decided otherwise.' Although the book was a disappointment, both from the lack of useful detail (amid the profusion of useless ones) and from plodding, meandering prose that can be likened only to the trail of the doomed Franklin sailors themselves, the book's strong suit is the near-real-time recounting of the various bureaucratic obstacles put up by British and (more recently) Canadian officialdom to blunt the progress of what turned out to be a fairly easy find of two large and largely intact vessels sitting upright in less than 100 feet of water -- one of which, the 'Terror', was found in 'Terror Bay', where one might expect someone could have looked previously.

The spellbinding true story of the greatest cold case in Arctic history and how the rare mix of marine science and Inuit knowledge finally led to the recent discovery of the shipwrecks. Spanning nearly 200 years, *Ice Ghosts* is a fast-paced detective story about Western science, indigenous beliefs, and the irrepressible spirit of exploration and discovery. It weaves together an epic account of the legendary Franklin Expedition of 1845 whose two ships, the HMS Erebus and the HMS Terror, and their crew of 129 were lost to the Arctic ice with the modern tale of the scientists, researchers, divers, and local Inuit behind the recent discoveries of the two ships, which made news around the world. The journalist Paul Watson was on the icebreaker that led the expedition that discovered the HMS Erebus in 2014, and he broke the news of the discovery of the HMS Terror in 2016. In a masterful work of history and contemporary reporting, he tells the full story of the Franklin Expedition: Sir John Franklin and his crew setting off from England in search of the fabled Northwest Passage; the hazards they encountered and the reasons they were forced to abandon ship after getting stuck in the ice hundreds of miles from the nearest outpost of Western civilization; and the dozens of search expeditions over more than 160 years, which collectively have been called the most extensive, expensive, perverse, and ill-starred . . . manhunt in history. All that searching turned up a legendary trail of sailors' relics, a fabled note, a lifeboat with skeletons lying next to loaded rifles, and rumors of cannibalism . . . but no sign of the ships until, finally, the discoveries in our own time. As Watson reveals, the epic hunt for the lost Franklin Expedition found success only when searchers combined the latest marine science with faith in Inuit lore that had been passed down orally for generations. *Ice Ghosts* is narrative nonfiction of the highest order, full of drama and rich in characters: Lady Jane Franklin, who almost single-handedly kept the search alive for decades; an Inuit historian who worked for decades gathering elders' accounts; an American software billionaire who launched his own hunt; and underwater archaeologists honing their skills to help find the ships. Watson also shows how the hunt for the Franklin Expedition was connected to such technological advances as SCUBA gear and sonar technology, and how it ignited debates over how to preserve the relics discovered with the ships. A modern adventure story that arcs back through history, *Ice Ghosts* tells the complete and incredible story of the Franklin Expedition, the greatest of Arctic mysteries for the ages. 8 pages of color illustrations

[A] thrilling tale of science's hunt to solve one of naval history's greatest riddles. . . . [Watson's] intimate familiarity with key players and places gives the reader an insider's view of the operations. - Gemma Tarlach, *Discover Magazine* An incredible yarn. - Matthew Price, *Boston Globe* Fascinating. - Bill Streever, *Dallas Morning News* A splendid achievement. - Ken McCoogan, *Toronto Globe Mail* Intriguing [and] enjoyable. . . . While there have been many previous books about the Franklin expedition and its mysterious fate, the notable originality of *Ice Ghosts* lies in the fact that it brings the story right up-to-date. . . . Franklin aficionados will certainly want to add it to their libraries. -

Ian McGuire, New York Times Book Riveting. - BooklistEngaging A keen, entertaining chronicle of the various attempts to locate a sensationally doomed expedition. - Kirkus (starred review)About the AuthorPaul Watson is the author of *Where War Lives* and the recipient of the Pulitzer Prize, the National Headliner Award, the George Polk Award, and the Robert Capa Gold medal. He lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.