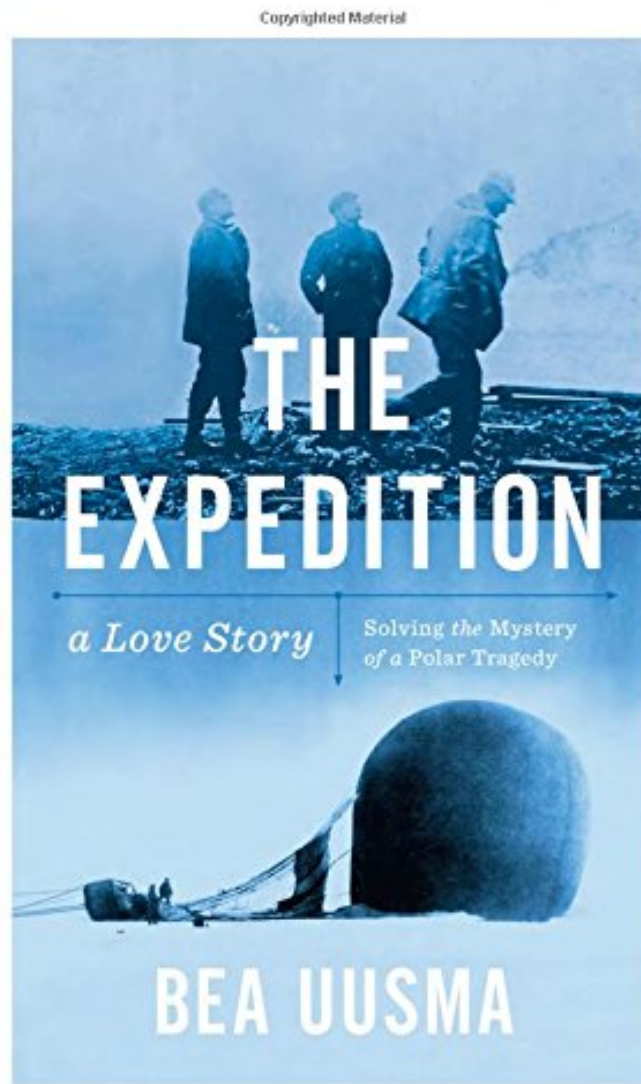


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The Expedition

Bea Uusma

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Bea Uusma : The Expedition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Expedition:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Written with a passion and obsession.By TimWhat a beautifully, and lovingly, written book about a dramatic and tragic expedition.Like another reviewer, I could not tear myself from reading. I started reading this book in the park and only stopped because it had gotten dark!The author has a passion, an obsession really, with the Andre expedition and she follows that passion/obsession and takes us along with her to

where it leads. I love meeting people with this sort of deep passion/obsession as I have found such people to be so extremely interesting. The last part of the book gives an extremely useful day-by-day chronology of the expedition, with quotes from the expedition diaries of Andre and Nils Strindberg. This adds greatly with understanding just what the expedition had to endure once on the ice. And the love affair between Strindberg and his fiance, and the letters and diary entries he wrote to her, will break your heart. The last section of the book gives a very detailed analysis of all the possible causes for the deaths of the three expedition members. The author gives you the rationale for each and the reader can make their informed decision as to the cause(s) of their deaths. Personally, I agree with the author as to the cause of the deaths. Oh, and to give this beautiful book a 2-star rating simply because the author didn't provide a definitive answer to cause of death is unwarranted, in my opinion. I actually purchased another book about the Andre expedition at the same time I ordered Bea Uusma's book. That book was entitled 'The Ice Balloon' and from reading both books back-to-back I will say that I much prefer Uusma's 'The Expedition'. I can't write a much finer review than what another reviewer, Gerard Lebar, has written but I will add my 5 stars and urge all to read this gripping and loving book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Russell Bragg interesting book 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A love story in every sense of the word: mysterious, unavoidable, and timeless! By Gerard Lebar I've never written anything on here before, because, frankly, I've never been compelled to. But after putting the finishing touches on "The Expedition" last night, I wanted to do my part in spreading the word of this gem of a tale. I happened upon this book in large part due to its cover. It is beautiful, yet haunting; both a cry for help and a calm reassurance. The cover alone isn't worthy of our continued devotion though, the promise of love however, in my opinion, is. "The Expedition," for all its priceless imagery, unwavering investigation, and compelling mystery, is, at its core, a story of love. And if it does sweet justice to any one virtue, if not all, it is the ever-illusory love. After having spent the last year of my life in northwestern Greenland, I understand - to some, small degree (as much as the comforts of modern technology allow) - the struggles of the Arctic, those that captivate the reader in this mystery throughout. Ms. Uusma does a fine job narrating a rather, evasively complex experience. Her commitment to truth is uncompromising. Although faced with great adversity in uncovering something many have given up on, she stops at nothing to ensure the reader has a luxury rarely afforded in journalistic pieces: all the facts. She allows no assumptions. Refuses the acceptance of half-truths or prevailing theories. She looks under every rock, into every cranny (literally and metaphorically). Her communion with the past is a rare achievement! In the end, instead of being told how to think, she affords the reader the opportunity to relive the investigation for themselves. "How did they die?" is important. But this multilayered tale is much more than that. What they lived for is the matter at hand. If you look far enough, just as Uusma did, you'll find out. Just like love, this book is imperfect. It leaves some things to be desired. It can be choppy and incomplete. I guarantee you, you'll wish some things were done differently. But what great works don't? And with that in mind, if given a chance, you'll be captivated by what is an honest reflection of our humanity and the struggles we face when we aspire to more. Purchase or borrow. Enjoy. In the end it will have been worth it! - GL

In 1897 three men disappeared in the North Pole only now have their final hours been revealed with this award-winning forensic investigation of a 120-year-old mystery On July 11th, 1897, three men set out in a hydrogen balloon bound for the North Pole. Led by engineer August Soloman Andre, they want to make history, but are frighteningly underprepared. Three days into their journey they make a crash landing and disappear into a white nightmare. They never return. 33 years later, the men's bodies and equipment are found buried beneath the snow and ice on a deserted glacier. They had enough food, clothing, and ammunition to survive. Why did they die? 100 years later, Bea Uusma is at a party. She pulls a book off a shelf about the Andre Expedition. For the next 15 years, Bea will think of nothing else. This is her journey to uncover the truth.

'This beautifully written adventure story is a blend of memoir and poetic investigation, packed with maps, photographs, lists and journal entries' The Simple Things. 'Not just an exploration book or a detective story but an intriguing experiment in literary non-fiction, THE EXPEDITION is playful in its typography and layout, with every page designed and not just typeset. But its whimsy is always purposeful, and the book earns its right both as documentary and as memoir to the attention of exploration enthusiasts of any taste' Times Literary Supplement. 'I read it in one sitting. You just can't put it down' Nerikes Allehanda. 'A fascinating, seriously entertaining book' Helsingborgs Dagbladet. 'A masterpiece' Aftonbladet. 'Uusma's tenacity has produced real results and by the artless vulnerability with which she reveals her own foibles and the artful way in which she weaves together history, research and self-revelation into something of genuine substance' The Times. About the Author Bea Uusma started investigating the Andre expedition while completing her medical degree. She was awarded the August Prize for best non-fiction book for The Expedition.