

[Free] The Longest Winter: Scott's Other Heroes

The Longest Winter: Scott's Other Heroes

Meredith Hooper

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Meredith Hooper : The Longest Winter: Scott's Other Heroes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Longest Winter: Scott's Other Heroes:

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A Splendid ReadBy Dr. Warren ZapolThis is Antarctic non-fiction at its best. A real page turner that I read in two sittings. Having spent a dozen austral summers on the Antarctic ice, I can tell the true McCoy description of Polar life and teamwork when I read it-- This little known tale of Scott's early South Polar explorers gets into the realities of living and working in the isolated days a century ago before

telecoms and e mail. While the well known dramas of the South Polar race are in movies and books, Meredith Hooper tells the almost unknown tale of these extra-ordinary men of Scott's team who didn't go to the Pole, but explored and survived for over a year on a diet of only Weddell seal and penguin. Such a tale of extraordinary endurance. Hooper tells this tale intelligently, enchantingly and perceptively, often in the explorer's own words, since she has spent years studying the men's diaries at SPRI. What more she has visited the isolated Ross Sea spots where they lived or sailed past-- It doesn't get any better than reading this Antarctic tale to help one imagine what real exploration was like on this extraordinarily inhospitable continent--0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A nice supplement to any narrative of Scott's ill-fated expedition. By EMC Very interesting. This book delves into the personalities of 6 of Scott's polar team and the class distinctions between gentlemen officers and regular seamen as they strive to survive overwintering in the Antarctic during one of the harshest winters experienced in the region. A nice supplement to any narrative of Scott's ill-fated expedition. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Review By Solo Excellent and gripping. A terrific read for anyone interested in South Polar expeditions at the turn of the century. Extremely well written and researched. The maps are clear and explain the planned sledging routes. You do seem to have more insight into the Eastern party (of Scott's expedition) after reading this. I'd recommend the book, gives a flip side to the other expedition that didn't head south with Scott in 1911.

Their tents were torn, their food was nearly finished, and the ship had failed to pick them up as planned. Gale-force winds blew, bitter with the cold of approaching winter. Stranded and desperate, the six men of the Northern Party faced disaster. Searching out a snow drift, they burrowed inside. Lieutenant Victor Campbell drew a line across the floor in the gloom to establish naval order: three officers on one side, the three seamen on the other. A birthday was celebrated with a carefully hoarded biscuit and they sang hymns every Sunday, so what kept these men going? Circumstances forced them closer together, their roles blurred and a shared sense of reality emerged. This mutual suffering made them indivisible and somehow they made it through the longest winter. To the south, the men waiting at headquarters knew that the Polar Party must be dead and hoped that another six men would not be added to the death toll. Working from expedition diaries, journals, and letters written by expedition members, Meredith Hooper tells the intensely human story of Scott's other expedition.

Hooper burrows deeply into the courageous psyche of these enduring heroes, critically resurrecting their role in Polar history that otherwise might have been forgotten. A book that adds much value to the literature of Antarctic exploration * Oxford Times * A vivid reconstruction displays the true grit and peculiar Englishness of the six explorers who survived half a year holed up in an ice cave in the Antarctic . . . Meredith Hooper's authoritative and insightful chronicle of the "eastern party" of Robert Scott's final Antarctic expedition . . . the real pleasure lies less in the details of suffering and survival than in a journey into the strange, alien landscape of the Edwardian male mind . . . Hooper, with her keen antipodean's eye, finds diversion in the curiosities of class and etiquette on an awfully English expedition . . . this enjoyable, vivid study of the English in extremis * Sunday Times * Antarctica historian Meredith Hooper has based this enthralling account on the men's diaries and letters. In a book where the expression "stiff upper lip" truly comes into its own, Hooper gives us a wonderful sense of immediacy as we follow the story of these extraordinary, forgotten men * The Age * Hooper tells this story with an impressive combination of flair and scholarship . . . a significant addition to the literature about the exploration of the Antarctic [and] a greatly enjoyable read * Polar Record * This book relives their fears and squalid surroundings from day to day. Even as you lie in the sun on holiday, you will be chilled, gripped and amazed by the human resilience displayed in such awesome conditions * Daily Mail * 'In this shivering, unsung story of incredible survival and stiff upper lips, there is genuine heroism to be celebrated' * Saga * A cracking story * Daily Mail * About the Author Meredith Hooper is an award-winning writer of many books of nonfiction for children. During the last 15 years she has specialized in writing about the history, geology, and wildlife of Antarctica. In 2000 Congress awarded her the Antarctic Service Medal.