

THE TITANIC DETECTIVE AGENCY KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Plot:

Bertha Watt, tree-climber and would-be polar explorer, is excited to be on RMS Titanic's maiden voyage. As she leaves Aberdeen behind for the glamour of a new life in America. However, Bertha quickly realises that some passengers are behaving strangely and she determines to unravel their secrets. With her new friend, Madge, Bertha sets up her own detective agency to try to solve the mysteries onboard but they have no idea that disaster is looming for the Titanic. Can they help Johan find the hidden treasure and unmask the identity of the enigmatic Mr Hoffman before time runs out on the 'unsinkable' ship?

Themes:

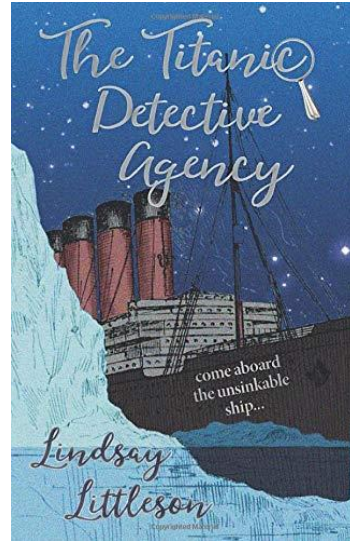
Friendship, family, courage, teamwork and collaboration, danger, loss and grief.

Setting:

RMS Titanic, North Atlantic Ocean

CHARACTERS

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|--------------------------|---|
| Robertha (Bertha) Watt | 12-year-old girl, sailing with her mother, in 2 nd class, to join her father in America. Strong-willed and knows her own mind. |
| Marjorie (Madge) Collyer | 8-year-old girl, sailing with her parents, in 2 nd class, to set up a fruit farm in Idaho. Quite a shy and timid girl |
| Johan Svensson | Swedish boy sailing on his own, in 3 rd class, to join his father in America. Doesn't speak any English. |
| Elizabeth (Bessie) Watt | Bertha's mother. Kind and caring lady who makes sure Bertha knows right from wrong and shows good manners. |
| Rosa Pinsky | 32-year-old widow from Poland, sharing the cabin with the Watts. Returning from Warsaw. |
| Ellen Toomey | 50-year-old Irish lady, also sharing the cabin with the Watts. Returning from seeing family. |



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|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Name of book: | The Titanic Detective Agency |
| Date Published: | 2019 |
| Author: | Lindsay Littleton |
| Genre: | Historical Adventure |

QUOTES

- “”And the newspapers have declared her “practically unsinkable.”
- “All the adults of her acquaintance seemed to be insufferably dull, and useless role models.”
- “What kind of a detective would she be if she gave up when situations got scary?”
- In the rule book she followed, girls were allowed to cry. Boys weren't.
- “An unnerving quiet had fallen on the Titanic.”
- “We must do the best we can with our lives now. We owe it to the people who died, so we could live.”

VOCABULARY

| | |
|-------------|--|
| aft | rear of the ship |
| balustrades | railing held up by posts |
| conducive | making something likely to happen |
| davit | crane that hangs over side of ship |
| dirigibles | large light aircraft (blimp) |
| emanating | giving off or giving out |
| evasive | deliberately avoiding clear answers |
| frigid | freezing cold |
| frugal | using money/supplies carefully |
| furnaces | enclosed structure producing heat |
| hawsers | large rope for towing a ship |
| hauling | pulling or dragging with effort |
| immigration | moving to a new country to live |
| imperious | domineering and arrogant |
| maudlin | tearfully or weakly emotional |
| milling | moving about in a disorderly way |
| pioneering | being the first to do/invent something |
| plummet | to drop sharply and abruptly |
| prow | the bow of a ship |
| raucous | loud, sharp and rasping noise |
| salvaged | saved or rescued from destruction |
| segregation | keeping people apart |
| steerage | cheapest accommodation on a ship |
| stern | rear end of a ship |
| surfeit | An overabundant supply, excess |
| tarpaulin | sheet of waterproof canvas |
| throes | hard or painful struggle |
| veered | changed direction |
| vigilant | alert, especially to avoid danger |

DISCUSSION POINTS

- How does this book show the gender stereotypes of the time?
- Do you agree that people who paid more money for their tickets should have had priority over those who paid less?