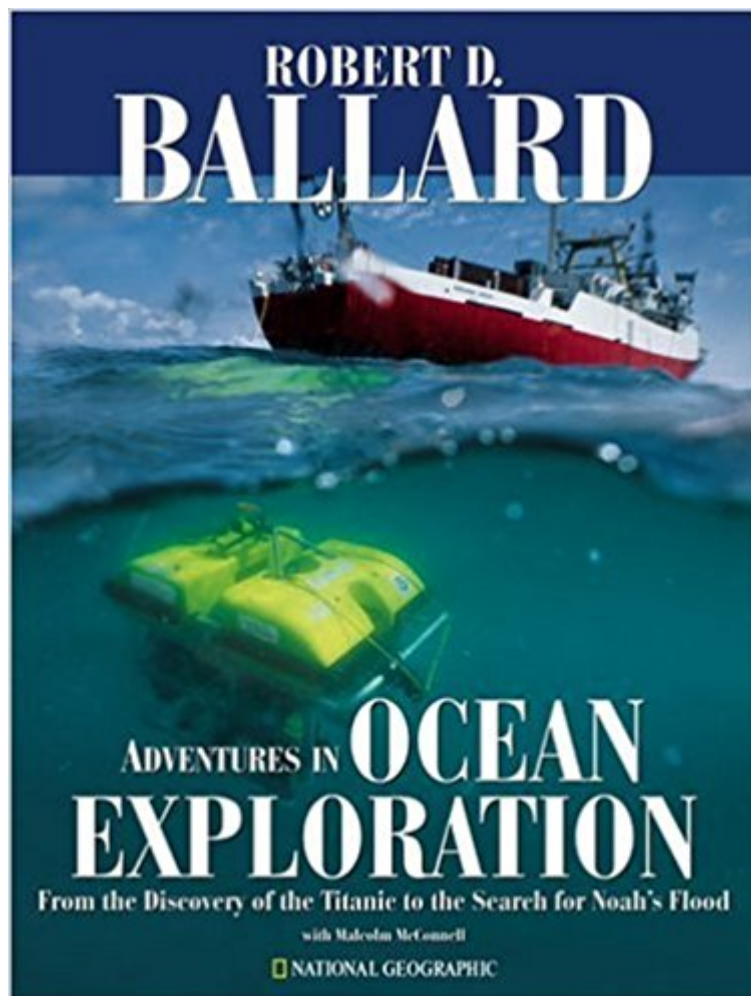




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Adventures In Ocean Exploration : From The Discovery Of The Titanic To The Search For Noah's Flood



Synopsis

Few men know the ocean as well as Robert Ballard. A pioneering marine scientist, he has dived in submersibles in all the planet's oceans, contributed key pieces to such scientific puzzles as plate tectonics and deep-ocean biology, and located scores of wrecked ships all over the world, including the doomed liner Titanic and the battered hulk of the German battleship Bismarck. Now, in this generously illustrated chronicle of our age-old fascination with the sea, he interweaves his experiences at the heart of modern undersea exploration with a vivid account of thousands of years of seafaring and discovery, as his own most exciting and important dives become the starting points for an odyssey through time that introduces the greatest sailors and voyages of history and sketches the evolution of ships and navigation from the first reed boats to the nuclear submarines of today.

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Customer Reviews

This is a wonderful book with exceptional pictures.

Beautiful pictures, but if your looking for an indepth exploration of Dr. Ballard's findings this is not it. He did seem to enjoy it.

I have known and admired Bob Ballard since his early years at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution - and for good reason. Too many professional ocean scientists tut tut Ballard as a

showman (the same was done more cuttingly to Capt. Jacques Yves Cousteau by French scientists). But Ballard's scientific achievements alone put him among the scientific elite had he never taken a step as a popularizer. Thank God he left the ivory tower and used his incredible gifts to utilize and innovate with ocean technology. Without him finding the Titanic, Bismarck, and PT 109 would have been unlikely for reasons of both cost and extreme logistic difficulty. The recognition that no-oxygen, hydrogen sulfide deeps of the Black sea preserved many important ancient wrecks and hold untold insights for future study of the past opens up breathtaking future vistas. Ballard is an optimist and an idealist. His Jason project, bringing tens or even hundreds of thousands of school kids into ocean exploration is an island of healthy excitement into an otherwise discouraging educational world in the U.S. Ballard can be interesting talking about rigging or paint cans. I don't know how he does it. He's an inspiration and role model, and deserves the Nation's highest civilian honor. I hope he achieves it while still vigorously at work creating more excitement and knowledge of our ocean realm!

If you enjoy those NatGeo TV broadcasts about ocean discoveries, this book is for you. Since my younger days, I've always like to read a well written biography or auto-biography, recalling what Dr. Suess said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go". Biographies can allow people to imagine places in new ways and can help promote self discovery. This NatGeo Society book is an informative, yet fun to read "illustrated biography" about Robert Ballards life of exploration and discovery. Besides being a large lavishly illustrated book, 10 x 12, with over 200 illustrations, Ballard chronicles the history of ocean exploration engaging the reader with insightful stories of our age old relationship to the oceans. His stories are entertaining, highlighting his experiences travelling the ghostly trails of previous explorers and the exciting discoveries of his own modern ocean explorations. When asked about how he became an explorer, he said " The only way to find out what you are is by trying everything, and at some point you take the person you are, be your unique and exciting self, polish your inner self and people will beat a path to your door". This book can be a good companion to any television documentary about ocean exploration. Enjoy.

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