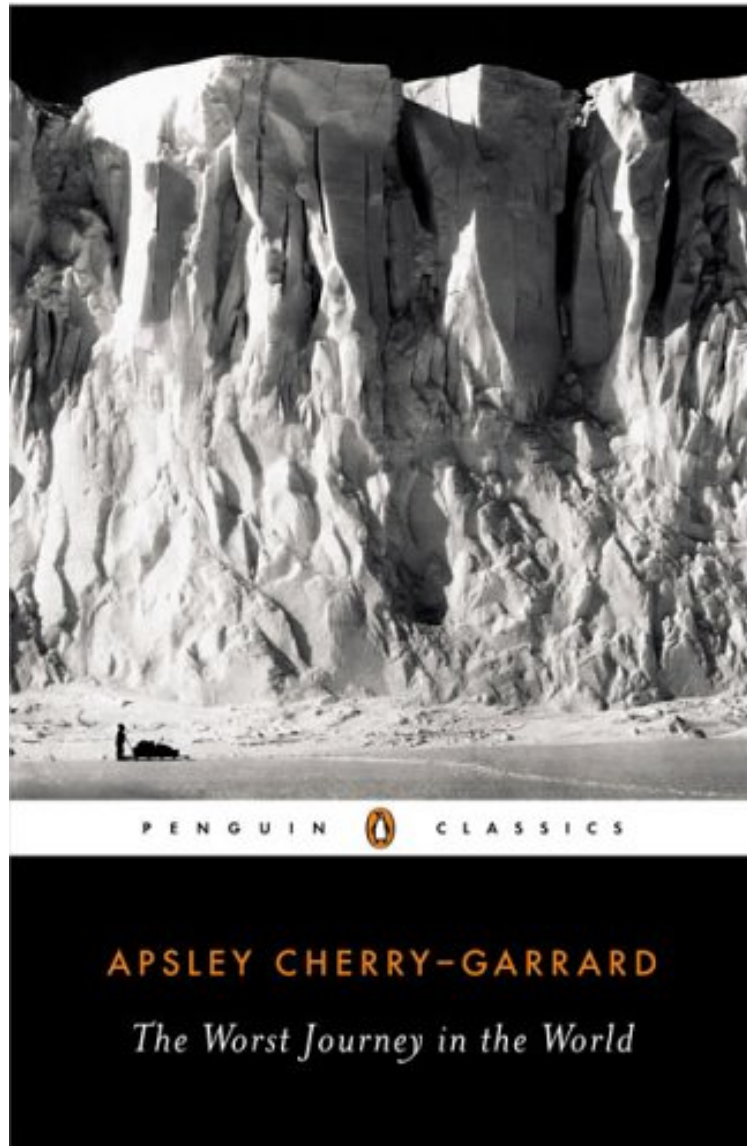


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The Worst Journey in the World (Penguin Classics)

Apsley Cherry-Garrard

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Apsley Cherry-Garrard : The Worst Journey in the World (Penguin Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Worst Journey in the World (Penguin Classics):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. One of the best books you'll ever readBy Nora HagueThere is absolutely no book like this in the annals of exploration/survival literature--and few books that approach it in any other genre. Apsley Cherry-Garrard was part of Robert Falcon Scott's ill-fated quest for the South Pole, but his book is no catalogue of derring-do and manly exploits. It is instead a memoir of suffering, exhilaration, and disaster, told with

lyrical depth and near-heartrending honesty. Never does Cherry-Garrard descend into self-pity; instead he writes with a vividness that brings his ordeal--and the beauty that he nonetheless bore witness to--alive almost between the lines. This is the work of a poet, a classical writer and thinker, as well as an explorer. It is a testament not only to the circumstances Cherry-Garrard survived, but to the framework of British culture that surrounded them. It is a literary masterpiece, one of my all-time favorite books, and deserving of a place on any shelf devoted to serious literature.

0 people found the following review helpful. A Great Travel Memoir By J. G. Lewis This is the memorable recounting of Robert Falcon Scott's 1910 Journey to the South Pole, in an attempt, among other matters, to be the first men to reach it. Apsley Cherry-Garrard's journal is studious and long, and takes about 100 pages to get fully going and engaged, yet once this happens, it is gripping reading all the way to the final sentences. In it Cherry provides interesting portrayals of the people and events, occasional anecdotes, along with at times whimsical, and at other times philosophical, commentary. His observations and analysis are superb. This leads to his epilogue, and the conclusions he drew from the experience, which are very well placed and outstanding, and so much so that they offer suggestions and thought even for our own time. So then, this is fine adventure reading, as well as advancing to societal critique. Superb reading, not to be missed.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Superb. By Sussex Possibly the best book on Polar Exploration ever produced, Apsely Cherry-Garrard's classic was written primarily with the work of future explorers in mind. As such it is a very detailed and honest account of the operations side of the Terra Nova Expedition. This edition contains all the illustrations of the two volume original, and whilst the quality could be better, this seems to be the best modern rendering available. For better illustrations I highly recommend "Edward Wilson's Antarctic Notebooks" (I have the 2011 Reardon edition). Cherry-Gararrd's account only skims over the expedition's initial finance, selection and organisation which obviously had a direct bearing upon the outcome. It would also be nice if a future edition could provide a short follow-up on the subsequent fates of the major characters apart from the Polar Party. As for comments on style, pace and keeping bad readers interested. If you want a Wikipedia summary or a Hollywood movie then don't look here. If you have the patience to hear the real story from a genuine hero then your effort will be well rewarded. The details are there for a reason, by the end I felt that I had been there in some tiny insignificant way as well and lost some good friends. Sensationalist revisions by lesser men can follow afterwards, if you so wish.

A firsthand account of Scott's disastrous Antarctic expedition *The Worst Journey in the World* recounts Robert Falcon Scott's ill-fated expedition to the South Pole. Apsley Cherry-Garrard, the youngest member of Scott's team and one of three men to make and survive the notorious Winter Journey, draws on his firsthand experiences as well as the diaries of his compatriots to create a stirring and detailed account of Scott's legendary expedition. Cherry himself would be among the search party that discovered the corpses of Scott and his men, who had long since perished from starvation and brutal cold. It is through Cherry's insightful narrative and keen descriptions that Scott and the other members of the expedition are fully memorialized.

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"The Worst Journey in the World is to travel writing what *War and Peace* is to the novel... a masterpiece." *The New York Times*

From the Inside Flap: Perhaps the greatest first-hand account of polar exploration. In his introduction to the harrowing story of the Scott expedition to the South Pole, Apsley Cherry-Garrard states that "Polar Exploration is at once the cleanest and most isolated way of having a bad time which has been devised." This is his gripping account of an expedition gone disastrously wrong. One of the youngest members of Scott's team, the author was later part of the rescue party that eventually found the frozen bodies of Scott and three men who had accompanied him on the final push to the Pole. Prior to this sad denouement, Cherry-Garrard's account is filled with details of scientific discovery and anecdotes of human resilience in a harsh environment, supported by diary excerpts and accounts from other explorers. Summing up the reasons for writing the book, Cherry-Garrard says: "To me, and perhaps to you, the interest in this story is the men, and it is the spirit of the men, "the response of the spirit," which is interesting rather than what they did or failed to do: except in a superficial sense, they never failed... It is a story about human minds with all kinds of ideas and questions involved, which stretch beyond the furthest horizons."

About the Author: Apsley Cherry-Garrard (1886-1959) was one of the youngest members of Captain Scott's final expedition to the Antarctic which he joined to collect the eggs of the Emperor penguin. After the expedition, Cherry-Garrard served in the First World War and was invalided home. With the zealous encouragement of his neighbour, George Bernard Shaw, Cherry-Garrard wrote *The Worst Journey in the World* (1922) in an attempt to overcome the horror of the journey. As the years unravelled he faced a terrible struggle against depression, breakdown and despair, haunted by the possibility that he could have saved Scott and his companions.

Caroline Alexander has written for *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *Cond Nast Traveler*,

Smithsonian, Outside, and National Geographic and is the author of four previous books.