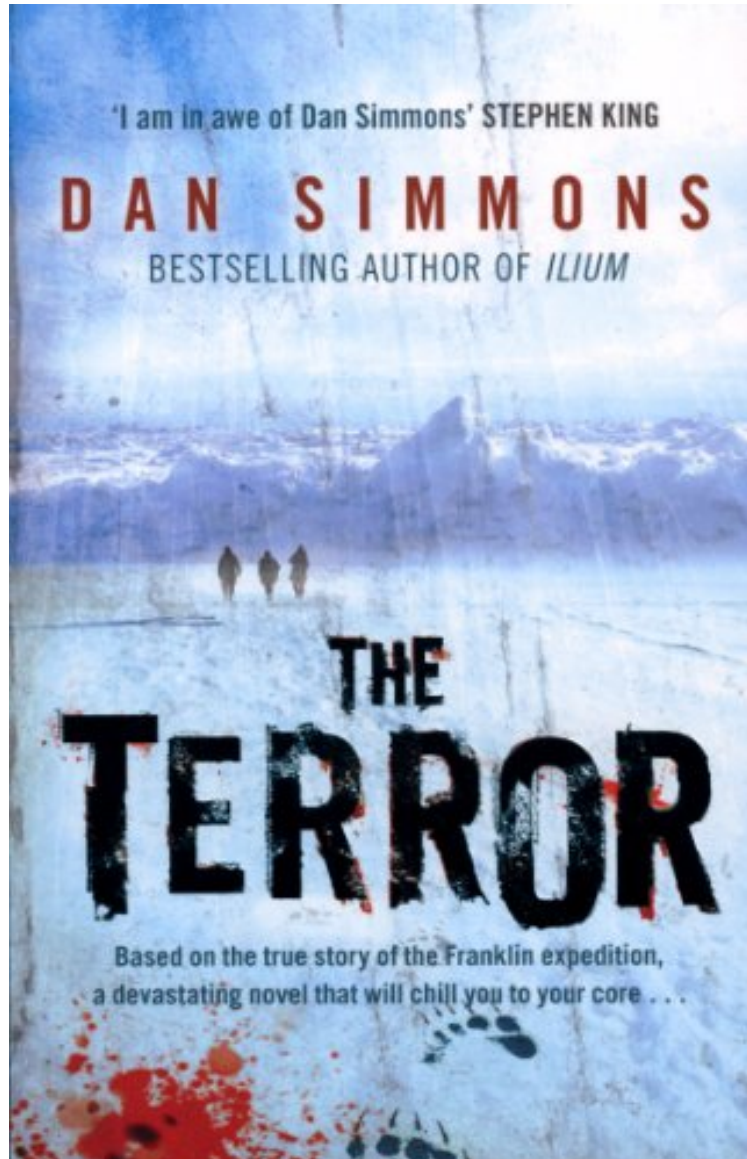


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The Terror

Von Dan Simmons

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Von Dan Simmons : The Terror before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Terror:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Why the Monster?Von TravisUsually I like monster stories. But in this case it wasn't necessary at all. The story contains enough horror and excitement without the monster. With no monster there would even be less stuff that I found a little

bit annoying. It was kind of strange that everybody kept on behaving as if there was no "thing" on the ice, even after it had showed up a few times (people walking around unarmed...). The book would have been shorter and it would have spared us the boring mystical stuff in the end...So it's 3.5 stars instead of 4;)0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. BONE-CHILLING...Von lawyeraaaI enjoy the horror genre. I also enjoy stories of arctic exploration and survival. This book is a perfect meld of the two genres. The author takes the mystery of the real life Franklin expedition of 1845, which sought the Northwest Passage and disappeared in the process, and combines it with a supernatural reason for their disappearance. With their two ships, Erebus and Terror, trapped in the arctic ice through the poor judgment exercised by their Captain, Sir John Franklin, the crew struggles to survive the harshness of their environment as well as a fearsome predator, the likes of which they have never seen. Mixing and blending the real with the surreal, the author vividly brings to life what life must have been like on that ill-fated voyage and injects a deep sense of dread of the thing that hunts them. This work of historical fiction and horror is beautifully researched and written, despite its daunting length, as it is nearly a thousand pages long, it is not a book for those who are looking for lots of blood and gore. It is more of a thoughtful rumination of the everyday horrors this ice bound crew had to endure from the lack of adequate and decent food to bone-chilling temperatures, coupled with an acute fear of the unseen thing that stalks them, killing them off one by one in horrific ways. The book is replete with well-fleshed characters that come to life and are perfectly joined with an intriguing storyline. The only thing that I did not like about the book was that the timeline jumped back and forth, at times, which I found a bit confusing. Those who enjoyed "The Ruins" by Scott Smith will probably enjoy this book, as well, as the story unfolds in that same slow and thoughtful way with a pervasive sense of dread present throughout the telling of the story.3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Too bad Simmons put in all that horror stuff Von Helmut Grokenberger I am an avid reader of anything connected with Franklin, Shackleton, Nansen, etc etc. Therefore I looked forward to reading a fictional account of the doomed Franklin expedition, based on lots of historic facts. Simmons is terrific at evoking the terrible atmosphere on board of Franklin's ships, and he is superb at sneaking in heaps of historically accurate facts about the expedition. However, I do not like horror stories (yes, I should have known better), and I do believe the whole book would have been fantastic if he had just left out the horror stuff - it's superfluous, and it detracts from the real events. My turning point came last night: chapter 21. On those 30 pages an ice-master is constantly trying to escape from a monster, mostly by the skin of his (or rather the monster's) teeth. This is exaggerated to such an extent - there are lots of phrases like "claws sliced the air not five inches from his back" - that it becomes both ludicrous and tedious after a while. Then again, if you love horror stories, you'll probably like it...

Kurzbeschreibung The men on board Her Britannic Majesty's Ships Terror and Erebus had every expectation of triumph. They were part of Sir John Franklin's 1845 expedition - as scientifically advanced an enterprise as had ever set forth - and theirs were the first steam-driven vessels to go in search of the fabled North-West Passage. But the ships have now been trapped in the Arctic ice for nearly two years. Coal and provisions are running low. Yet the real threat isn't the constantly shifting landscape of white or the flesh-numbing temperatures, dwindling supplies or the vessels being slowly crushed by the unyielding grip of the frozen ocean. No, the real threat is far more terrifying. There is something out there that haunts the frigid darkness, which stalks the ships, snatching one man at a time - mutilating, devouring. A nameless thing, at once nowhere and everywhere, this terror has become the expedition's nemesis. When Franklin meets a terrible death, it falls to Captain Francis Crozier of HMS Terror to take command and lead the remaining crew on a last, desperate attempt to flee south across the ice. With them travels an Eskimo woman who cannot speak. She may be the key to survival - or the harbinger of their deaths. And as scurvy, starvation and madness take their toll, as the Terror on the ice become evermore bold, Crozier and his men begin to fear there is no escape...From Publishers Weekly Starred . Hugo-winner Simmons (Olympos) brings the horrific trials and tribulations of arctic exploration vividly to life in this beautifully written historical, which injects a note of supernatural horror into the 1840s Franklin expedition and its doomed search for the Northwest Passage. Sir John Franklin, the leader of the expedition and captain of the Erebus, is an aging fool. Francis Crozier, his second in command and captain of the Terror, is a competent sailor, but embittered after years of seeing lesser men with better connections given preferment over him. With their two ships quickly trapped in pack ice, their voyage is a disaster from start to finish. Some men perish from disease, others from the cold, still others from botulism traced to tinned food purchased from the lowest bidder. Madness, mutiny and cannibalism follow. And then there's the monstrous creature from the ice, the thing like a polar bear but many times larger, possessed of a dark and vicious intelligence. This complex tale should find many devoted readers and add significantly to Simmons's already considerable reputation. (Jan.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist The prolific and versatile Simmons turns to historical fiction in this fine narrative of the lost Franklin expedition of the 1840s, in which nearly 200 men sailed in search of the Northwest Passage aboard two converted naval vessels, Erebus and Terror. They seemingly sailed off the face of the earth, until remains of the longest survivors among them were discovered many years later.

Simmons makes the Terror's Captain Crozier his protagonist, and through his eyes we see history infused with sf, fantasy, and horror elements: sf because the expedition went farther into the then unknown than did the Apollo astronauts; fantasy because the hardships of the grippingly described arctic environment played havoc with their minds; and horror because the men perished in ones and twos, in dozens and scores, from boat accidents, falls, scurvy, hypothermia, exposure, starvation, and parasitic infections. Crozier survives by taking refuge among the Inuit and covering the expedition's nightmarish trail by burning his ship and vanishing from civilization, by which time readers may be as emotionally drained as he. Outstanding. Roland Green Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved