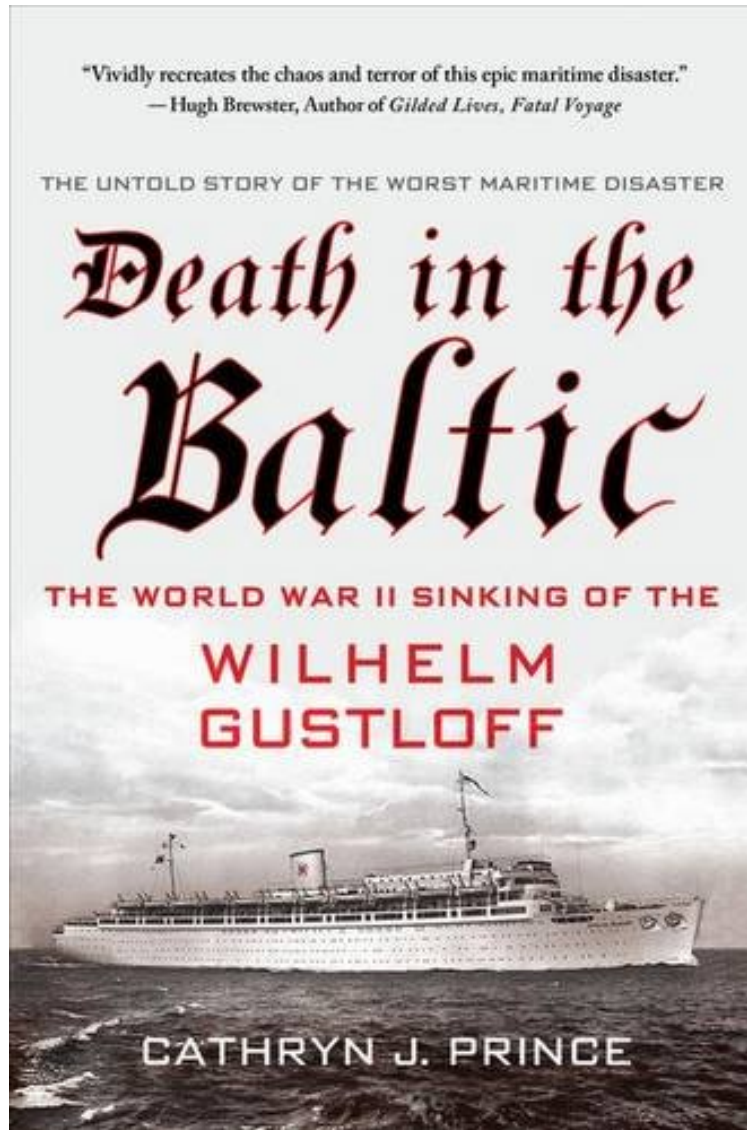


Death in the Baltic: The World War II Sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff

Cathryn J. Prince

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#335758 in Books Cathryn J Prince 2014-08-05 2014-08-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 228.60 x 14.83 x 6.001, .0 #File Name: 1137279192256 pages Death in the Baltic The World War II Sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff | File size: 43.Mb

Cathryn J. Prince : Death in the Baltic: The World War II Sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Death in the Baltic: The World War II Sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. There is a family connection to this historic story so ...By Barbara J.

RinasThere is a family connection to this historic story so it was a very personal read. My late husbands family lived in East Prussia and lost everything to the Russians. His uncle was seriously injured and was supposed to get on this ship but was not physically able to so he escaped an early death by not getting on the ship. It is a gripping true story.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What has happened to editors?By new york johnA good story in search of an editor! I really wanted to enjoy this book but through the first half I began to see statements repeated - often word for word - two or three pages apart. This was so distracting that I found myself losing interest. The story of the terrible disaster deserves to be told and perhaps it will be if an editor is found to work with an author. Sorry - I was really hoping to learn more than I did.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. True and terrifying.By Clairellen A. McLaughlinThis is an absorbing tale of a true story that has been hidden by history. Knowing the politics of war, it is understandable, but the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff caused a great loss of life, more than the Titanic certainly. History buffs will enjoy it, and some will be shocked. I have friends who are survivors of this tragedy, and it is a true tale of the tragedy.

January 1945: the outcome of World War II has been determined. The Third Reich is in free fall as the Russians close in from the east. Berlin plans an eleventh-hour exodus for the German civilians trapped in the Red Army's way. More than 10,000 women, children, sick, and elderly pack aboard the Wilhelm Gustloff, a former cruise ship. Soon after the ship leaves port, three Soviet torpedoes strike it, inflicting catastrophic damage and throwing passengers into the frozen waters of the Baltic. More than 9,400 perished in the night?six times the number lost on the Titanic. Yet as the Cold War started no one wanted to acknowledge the sinking. In *Death in the Baltic*, by drawing on interviews with survivors, as well as the letters and diaries of those who perished, award-winning author Cathryn Prince reconstructs this forgotten moment in history. She weaves these personal narratives into a broader story, finally giving this WWII tragedy its rightful remembrance.

“Based on German and Russian records, as well as material gained from interviews with survivors, author Prince has written a gripping account of one of the least-known human disasters of World War II.” ?Military History Magazine
“In describing the experiences of survivors, whom she has been adept in tracing, the journalist Cathryn Prince gives voices to ‘ordinary people who suffered during extraordinary times’ -- and does so with scrupulous empathy.” ?The Spectator
“A must-read for anyone wanting to examine the effects of the War on both sides.” ?Warfare magazine
“The story of the worst maritime disaster in history...Prince has scoured the planet for survivors, treating their harrowing stories with gentle empathy, from the first sickening bolts of the torpedoes to the chaos and terror of the ship's swift sinking as passengers fell into the freezing water, clambered for lifeboats and watched loved ones disappear in the tumult... An engaging study of a shocking tragedy.” ?Kirkus s
“If you think that the sinking of the Titanic was the worst maritime disaster ever, then you're wrong...Amazing and harrowing story, well written and documented.” ?Jean-Paul Adriaansen, Water Street Bookstore
“The sinking of the cruise liner that was once the pride of Hitler's Strength Through Joy program has long been overlooked by maritime historians. Yet when the Wilhelm Gustloff disappeared beneath the freezing waters of the Baltic in January of 1945, she took with her more than six times the number of people lost on the Titanic. Through careful research and interviews with the few remaining survivors. Cathryn J. Prince vividly recreates the chaos and terror of this epic maritime disaster.” ?Hugh Brewster, author of *Gilded Lives, Fatal Voyage: The Titanic's First-Class Passengers And Their World*
“Death in the Baltic is the engrossing story of a tragedy that should never have been forgotten. With the grace of a writer who truly feels the loss of thousands in the cold waters of the Baltic Sea, Cathryn J. Prince has preserved their memory and improved our sense of history.” ?Gregory A. Freeman, author of *The Forgotten 500*
“Cathryn Prince reaches into the dark corners of history, and draws attention to this unreported tragedy through the experiences of the people who lived it.” ?Stacy Perman, author of *A Grand Complication*
“With *Death in the Baltic* author Cathryn J. Prince recounts an important but little known aspect of World War II. Rich in detail, drama, and tragedy, Prince's gripping narrative skillfully interweaves the traumatic events of the final weeks of the war with moving stories of survivors of a maritime disaster which claimed more lives than the sinking of the Titanic.” ?Dwight Jon Zimmerman, award-winning author of *Uncommon Valor*
“Death in the Baltic tells a gripping, invaluable story. Out of a desire for vengeance and recognition, one Soviet submarine commander caused the deaths of thousands of refugees, deaths that the victors of World War II chose to ignore. Cathryn Prince breaks the silence around the devastation many German civilians suffered at the end of the war. Parting the curtain on the "collateral damage" the Allied Forces accepted as a necessary strategy for defeating Hitler, *Death in the Baltic* reveals that war's trauma spares no one.” ?Leila Levinson, award-winning author of *Gated Grief*
“The story of the sinking of the Willhelm Gustloff is still unkown to a majority of non-Germans...It is certainly a grimly fascinating story, not least because of the wealth of human interest that it contains...Cathryn Prince tells the story of the Gustloff briskly and engagingly...making good use of the eyewitness accounts of the survivors.” ?History Today
About the AuthorCathryn J. Prince is the author of *A Professor, a President, and a Meteor: The Birth of American Science*, for which she won the Connecticut Press Club's 2011 Book Award for non-fiction. She is also the author of *Burn the Town and Sack the Banks: Confederates Attack Vermont!* and *Shot from the Sky: American POWs*

in Switzerland. She worked as a correspondent for The Christian Science Monitor in Switzerland and in New York, where she covered the United Nations. Prince covers the Connecticut State House for Patch.com.