

The True Story Of The Disastrous 1871 Mission To The North Pole

In 1871, a team of explorers set out on a mission to reach the North Pole. The expedition was led by Charles Francis Hall, an experienced Arctic explorer. However, the expedition ended in disaster, with Hall and several of his crew members dying.



Journey to the Arctic: The True Story of the Disastrous 1871 Mission to the North Pole by Smart Reads

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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The expedition began in New York City in July 1871. Hall had assembled a crew of 18 men, including several experienced sailors and scientists. The expedition's ship, the *Polaris*, was a sturdy whaling vessel that had been reinforced for Arctic conditions.

The *Polaris* sailed north from New York City and made its way through the Davis Strait and into Baffin Bay. The expedition then turned north and sailed along the west coast of Greenland. In August 1871, the *Polaris* reached Smith Sound, the northernmost point of Greenland.

The expedition then began its journey across the Arctic Ocean. The *Polaris* sailed through heavy ice floes and encountered several storms. In October 1871, the *Polaris* became trapped in pack ice. The ship was held fast for several months, and the crew began to suffer from scurvy and other illnesses.

In April 1872, the *Polaris* finally broke free from the ice. However, the ship was badly damaged and was taking on water. Hall decided to abandon the *Polaris* and lead his crew south on foot. The crew traveled over ice floes and across open water. They eventually reached the coast of Greenland, where they were rescued by a whaling ship.

Hall and several of his crew members died during the expedition. Hall died of a stroke in November 1871. The exact cause of Hall's death is unknown, but it is believed that he was suffering from a combination of scurvy, exposure, and exhaustion.

The 1871 mission to the North Pole was a disaster. However, the expedition did make some important scientific discoveries. The crew collected data on the Arctic climate, the Arctic Ocean, and the Arctic wildlife. The expedition also helped to pave the way for future Arctic expeditions.

The Crew of the *Polaris*

- Charles Francis Hall, expedition leader
- Sidney O. Buddington, first officer
- George Tyson, second officer
- James M. Ambler, third officer

- Emil Bessels, surgeon
- Friedrich Meyer, astronomer
- Louis P. Krider, photographer
- Joe Ebierbing, Greenlandic interpreter
- Hans Hendrik, Greenlandic guide
- John Herron, carpenter
- John Gregory, engineer
- William Pristo, cook
- August Sontag, steward
- Peter Simmons, seaman
- Thomas Hickey, seaman
- Richard Keeler, seaman
- Charles Blake, seaman
- Matthew Henson, cabin boy

The Scientific Discoveries of the Polaris Expedition

- The expedition collected data on the Arctic climate, including temperature, humidity, and wind speed.
- The expedition collected data on the Arctic Ocean, including depth, currents, and salinity.
- The expedition collected data on the Arctic wildlife, including the distribution and behavior of polar bears, seals, and walruses.

The Legacy of the Polaris Expedition

The 1871 mission to the North Pole was a disaster. However, the expedition did make some important scientific discoveries. The expedition also helped to pave the way for future Arctic expeditions.

Today, the Polaris expedition is remembered as one of the most important Arctic expeditions in history. The expedition's scientific discoveries helped to increase our understanding of the Arctic environment. The expedition also helped to inspire future generations of Arctic explorers.

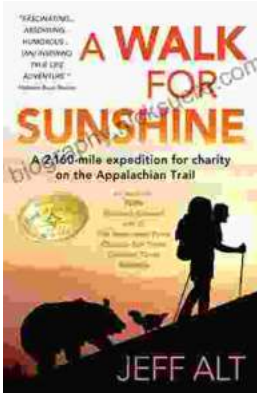


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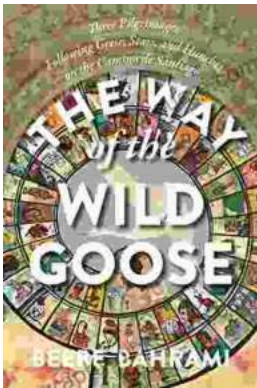
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