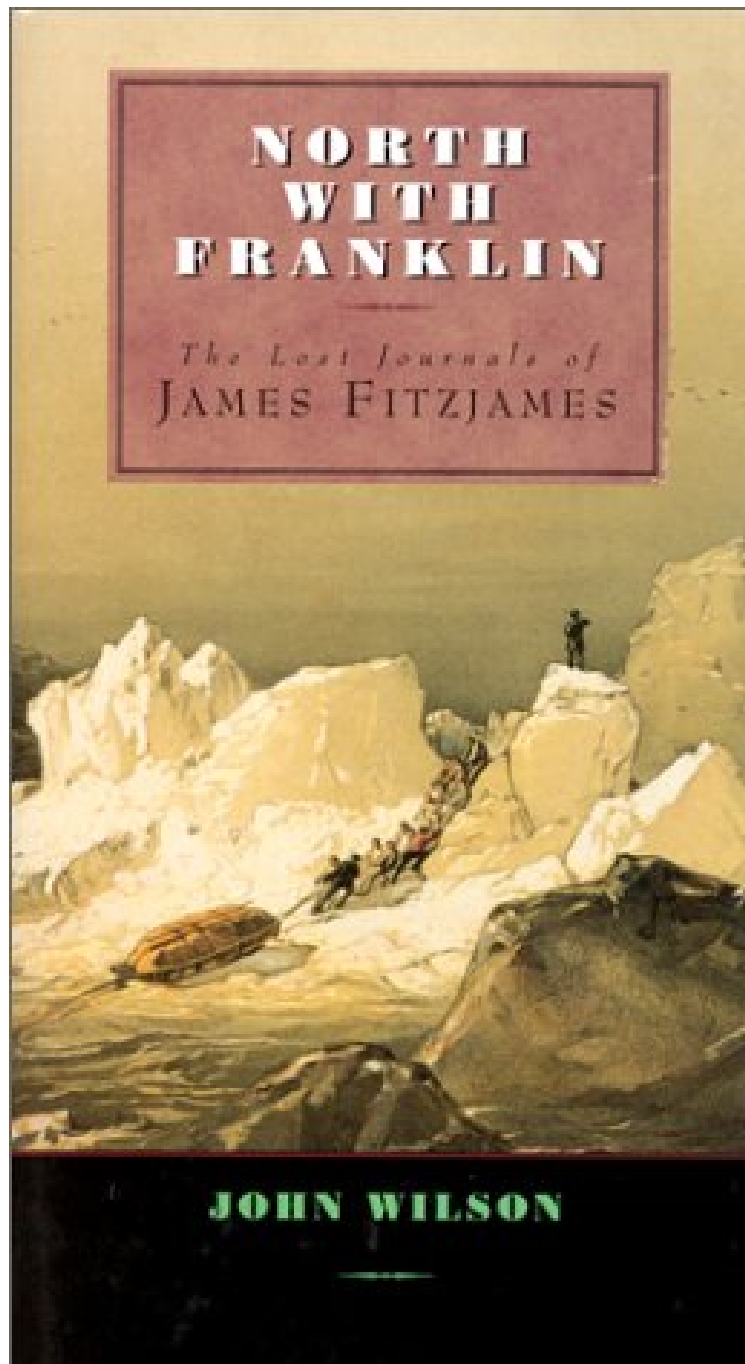


(Download ebook) North With Franklin: The Lost Journals of James Fitzjames

## North With Franklin: The Lost Journals of James Fitzjames

*John Wilson*

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#3216498 in Books Fitzhenry and Whiteside 1999-11-10 1999-11-10 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.33 x 1.08 x 5.341, #File Name: 1550414062308 pages | File size: 57.Mb

**John Wilson : North With Franklin: The Lost Journals of James Fitzjames** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *North With Franklin: The Lost Journals of James Fitzjames*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Cold, scurvy, food poisoning, injuries, suicide and starvation defeat the Frankline ExpeditionBy Patricia RileyThere have been so many expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic that have ended in tragedy. This book is about the fate of one of the most famous expeditions that remains a mystery: What happened to the Franklin Expedition of 1845? The author used a lot of material from that era to piece together a fictional diary supposedly written by James Fitzjames, second in command below Franklin on the ship *Erebus*. Though one wonders about his fondness for his friend's wife, the device of a diary meant for her makes the tale more interesting. The day by day, week by week, month by month and even year by year growing desperation slowly leads to the sad ending when the diary entries cease. The details ring true, based on bona fide diaries from that era. There is much emotion as well, as Fitzjames grieves for the expedition members who die off and has a growing realization that his fate may be the same.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. IncredibleBy Brian WeisI have a more than passing knowledge of the disastrous expedition, but this book truly made me understand what happened. The men aboard these boats became truly human. While it is a work of fiction, you come to truly comprehend the magnitude of the heroism, regret, fear, determination and honor many of these men must have displayed, though they are lost to history. You can read the lists of the crew and the names will be empty letters to you. Read this book and it will bring a whole new level of humanity to the men and a whole new level of horror at what happened to them.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. North with Franklin (eBook)By res31John, it's taken me a while with limited free time for reading, but I have just read the last page of *North with Franklin*. I've honestly enjoyed it immensely and been amazed at how authentically you seem to have projected yourself back into that tragically harsh time and place. Fiction and often guesswork it may be in its details, but it could easily be believable as Fitzjames' actual journal. Very well done. Now that I have discovered you (actually a near-neighbour!) I look forward to buying more of your books.You asked how it looks on the iPad. Well - I've found it clear and easily readable and love the ease of flipping the pages with the touch of a finger! I do miss not having the pages numbered, and don't know the actual 'thickness' of the book but I see technical difficulties in numbering the pages when the format changes with the orientation of the iPad.

Based on a series of letters written by Franklin expedition officer James Fitzjames -- journals which were only recently discovered in a Scottish attic after lying unsuspected for nearly 150 years -- this unique work of fiction masterfully chronicles one of the most enduring mysteries of the grand era of Arctic exploration and sheds new light on the expedition and the fate of its crew. Set against a backdrop of hardy adventurers and high Arctic imagery, this work of fiction is both an engaging story of the triumphs and tragedy of the last Franklin expedition of 1845, and an interpretation of the men and events that comprised one of the great episodes in nineteenth century exploration.

From BooklistAdventure fans and Franklin expedition junkies will appreciate this fictionalized account of the famous doomed trip. In 1845, Sir John Franklin and crew left England in search of a northwest passage through the Canadian Arctic. The expedition was the greatest and most thoroughly prepared ever, and the possibility of complete disaster seemed unimaginable to both participants and the fascinated public. By 1847, however, no word was heard from the group, so the English government began sending relief expeditions. Finally, in 1859, the crew's human remains, clothes, supplies, and equipment were located in the Arctic tundra, along with evidence of cannibalism and of a crew driven insane by the lead used to seal their canned goods. Based on a series of letters written by expedition officer James Fitzjames to the wife of a friend, and containing segments of his original journal (he mailed the journal from Greenland prior to the disastrous voyage), this novel re-creates the fascinating story of the expedition's demise. A suspenseful and enjoyable read. Kathleen Hughes "No account of the Franklin expedition's miserable last months has survived, but Wilson's fictional account has an authentic ring. There are glimpses of sweet-natured Sir John himself . . . Best of all, there is an attempt to explain the lure of the north . . . Wilson has developed for Fitzjames a stiff-upper-lipped style . . . Yet, I grew increasingly fond of Fitzjames, a decent and brave man. As the ghastly end to the adventure approaches, Fitzjames' composure cracks: I suddenly found my heart as well as my head engaged by this story." - Charlotte Gray, *The National Post* " . . . a richly re-imagined fable which goes far beyond anything the historical record alone might suggest, though it is carefully researched and never discordant with the glimmers history has left us. . . If there is a danger to this sort of writing, it is that the pedestrian flow of events abroad ship, and the historical details which give that life its flavor, can lead to monotony - a realistic enough result, as most such expeditions were comprised of routines . . . But this is a danger that Wilson largely avoids, mainly because his Fitzjames is writing not to an expectant public at home, but to a dear sister-in-law whose implicit interest in Fitzjames' doings is far more personal. We do not so much hear as overhear [Fitzjames's] voice, and like some future explorer coming upon a frozen cache of letters, we bring our own sense of elegy to a correspondence that we know in advance

cannot have ended happily. . . For readers of historical fiction who yearn to sojourn in those 'regions of thick-ribb'd ice' there could be few better companions than Wilson's James Fitzjames." - Russell A. Potter, *The Arctic Book* "Wilson has managed to make his invented journal seem authentic and his account of the ill-fated adventures seem plausible . . . one reads on, fascinated, to the bitter end." - *The Globe and Mail* "Based on a series of letters written by expedition officer James Fitzjames to the wife of a friend, and containing segments of his original journal (he mailed the journal from Greenland prior to the disastrous voyage), this novel recreates the fascinating story of the expedition's demise. A suspenseful and enjoyable read." - Kathleen Hughes, *Booklist* "North With Franklin is as close an account of the expedition's fate as we are likely to have, at least until Captain Fitzjames's real journals are found under some Arctic cairn." - Crawford Kilian, author of *The Fall of the Republic* and *Icequake* "Meticulously researched, Wilson has, through necessity, created his own interpretation of the events that took place so long ago. Yet his version is very believable and certainly fits with what little is known about the ill-fated expedition. *North With Franklin* is both entertaining and thought-provoking for readers of historical fiction and/or Canadiana. Highly recommended." - *Canadian Book Annual* "...poses as the real thing, a found journal that has been edited and published for the first time...Although I know the story of what appened to Franklin and his men, although I know how Fitzjames came to take command of the sad remnants of the crew, and although I know about the errors in judgement, the incomplete maps, the evidence of lead-poisoning, the cannibalism, the sledges weighed down with useless objects, and the Victory Point record with its two messages, I am helpless before this compelling story. Knowing what happened never makes the story dull or predictable, unless it is the predictability of high tragedy brought on by human error and hubris. You may not be such an incurable romantic as I, but I am prepared to wager that you too will be captivated by Wilson's narrative and find yourself, as I was, reading eagerly to find out when James will record what we know is coming next." - Sherrill Grace, *Canadian Literature* 170/1

About the Author John Wilson is the author of *ACROSS FROZEN SEAS*, *WEET'S QUEST*, *WEET*, and *LOST IN SPAIN*. *ACROSS FROZEN SEAS* was shortlisted for the Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction. He lives in British Columbia.