



The Wreck of the Titan or, Futility : complete with original Illustration (Illustrated)

By Morgan Robertson

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American short story writer and novelist, was born the son of Andrew Robertson, a ship captain on the Great Lakes, and Amelia (Glassford) Robertson. Morgan went to sea as a cabin boy and was in the merchant service from 1866 to 1877, rising to first mate. Tiring of life at sea, he studied jewelry making at Cooper Union in New York City and worked for 10 years as a diamond setter. When that work began to impair his vision, he turned to writing sea stories, placing his work in such popular magazines as McClure's and the Saturday Evening Post. Robertson never made much money from his writing, a circumstance that greatly embittered him. Nevertheless, from the early 1890s until his death in 1915 he supported himself as a writer and enjoyed the company of artists and writers in a small circle of New York's bohemia. Robertson was found dead of heart disease in an Atlantic City hotel room.

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- Rank: #737680 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-08-06
- Released on: 2013-08-06
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

Even stranger is another story included in this ebook: *Beyond the Spectrum*

This story describes a futuristic war fought with aircraft that carried what he called "sun bombs". These bombs were so powerful that with one brilliant flash of blinding light, one single bomb could destroy an entire city (much like a nuclear bomb).

N. B.: When this story was written, airplanes were still tiny, dangerous machines that could barely carry one man and was decades before the Germans started their "heavy water" experiments, trying to construct a nuclear device.

In addition, this future war begins in the month of December when the Japanese stage a sneak attack on Hawaii.

It appears that the author was visionary of sorts.

--Am. Library Assoc.

About the Author

Morgan Robertson was an American writer best known for his novel *Futility, or The Wreck of the Titan*, a prescient novel published in 1898 about the catastrophic sinking of an unsinkable ocean liner, eerily similar to the sinking of the *Titanic* fourteen years later. Robertson also penned *The Submarine Destroyer*, *Three Laws and the Golden Rule*, and the short story *Beyond the Spectrum*, which described a future war between the United States and the Empire of Japan. Morgan Robertson died in 1915.

Users Review

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Ann Fout:

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