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### Locked in Ice: Nansen's Daring Quest for the North Pole

Maryn Wheeler

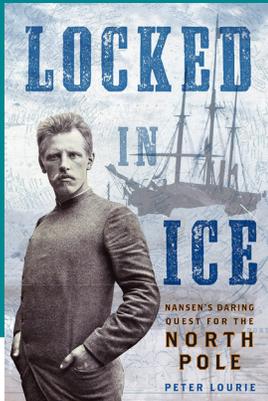
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## Book Review

# Locked in Ice: Nansen's Daring Quest for the North Pole

### Author

Peter Lourie

### Reviewer

Maryn Wheeler

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### Rating

Outstanding

### Level

Young Adult

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### Pages

316

### Year

2019

### ISBN

9781250137647

### Publisher

Henry Holt and Company

In 1893, Fridtjof Nansen locked his specially-designed boat in Arctic ice with the goal of reaching the North Pole. As an adventurer, explorer, and scientist, he had dreamed of this adventure that no one had achieved before. He studied previous polar exploration attempts and hand-picked twelve men to accompany him. After two years locked in ice, he realized that the current would not take him to the North Pole. He left his ship and crew to set out on the ice with one man, three sleds, and twenty-seven sled dogs. Their expected sled journey of 100 days took 18 months, finally returning to Norway and getting closer to the North Pole than anyone ever had. Nansen was reunited with his ship and crew in August of 1896, and he led an extraordinary life contributing to science, exploration, and humanity. His daring expedition greatly advanced scientific knowledge for polar exploration.

Lourie's nonfiction adventure imaginatively captures Nansen's thrilling and life-threatening journey. Daily life details such as sleeping arrangements, hunting, wild animal attacks, equipment malfunctions, and arguments along the expedition enhance the harrowing survival story. Photographs from the expedition and Nansen's drawings support the storytelling. Lourie includes a glossary, timeline, equipment list, short biography for each crew member, ship design plans, scientific explanations for processes used on the exploration, and resources for further inquiry at the back of the book. Nansen's later life is also retold with notes about his family, work as a statesman and diplomat in founding the League of Nations, and his Nobel Peace Prize for humanitarian work with refugees.