



## Titanicat (True Stories)

By Marty Crisp

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### Titanicat (True Stories) By Marty Crisp

Young Jim Mulholland can't believe his good luck: He has signed on as a cabin boy to the world's finest ocean liner, the Titanic, and can't wait for the history-making voyage across the sea to America. As part of his duties Jim is in charge of the ship's cat, a beautiful tortoiseshell that also appears happy to be on board. He calls the cat by the ship's construction number, 4-0-1, certain that she will bring him good luck. And he's delighted when 4-0-1 shortly gives birth to a litter of kittens. But once the ship's trial runs are completed and it's ready to launch to sea, Jim notices that 4-0-1 is nowhere to be found. He's got to find her-the Titanic can't cast off without her lucky cat. Jim is faced with a decision that will affect the rest of his life. A newspaper journalist for 30 years, Marty Crisp often writes about the animals that hold a special interest and place in her heart. She has published many award-winning books for children and adults, including *White Star*, her book about a dog on the Titanic. Marty lives in Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Robert Papp's award-winning artwork includes hundreds of illustrations for major publishers across the United States, and his first children's book, *The Scarlet Stockings Spy*, was named an IRA Teachers' Choice in 2005. His other books with Sleeping Bear Press include *The Last Brother* and *M is for Meow: A Cat Alphabet*. Robert lives in historic Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

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## Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

In the late 1990s, a story came out about an Irishman who had crewed on the *Titanic* during its trial runs. Assigned to take care of the ship's cat, the superstitious fellow disembarked before the fatal crossing, when the cat left, carrying her kittens. Crisp takes this vignette and turns it into the story of cabin boy Jim Mulholland, a cheerful lad, pleased and proud to be working aboard the *Titanic*. He cares for the ship's cat, 401 (named for the ship's number) and her multicolored kittens, saving the black one when it almost falls overboard. He's heard that cats bring luck to a voyage, so when 401 disembarks with her kittens, he's startled. Then he notices she hasn't taken the black one, and Jim feels bound to bring it to her, though the ship sails without him—fortunately. The crisp narrative is juxtaposed with lush, painterly artwork that fills the oversize pages. Papp plays with light and perspective and sometimes adds a photorealistic touch to the pictures. An author's note tells readers about the story's origins and lists sources. Grades K-3. --Ilene Cooper

From School Library Journal

Grade 1–4—Jim Mulholland is a young man ready to see the world as a cabin boy on the *Titanic*. He comes from a family with maritime roots; he understands the traditions of life on the sea, as well as its superstitions. When he is charged with taking care of the ship cat while the vessel runs through its trials and prepares for its maiden voyage, Jim takes his job seriously. And when the cat gives birth to four kittens, he becomes extra vigilant. He cannot believe how lucky he is to be working on such a beautiful new ship. But while the *Titanic* is docked at Southampton, Jim spots the cat removing her kittens one by one. Concerned that she has forgotten one, he takes it to her and consequently misses the sailing. His duffle bag, his dreams—gone. Six days later, he learns just how lucky he is. An author's note details how Crisp researched this true story about a ship cat and the boy she saved. Papp's fresh-faced Jim and winsome kittens provide a sense of optimism as they await the great adventure that will never be. The picture-book format works well for this brief episode in the disaster. Reluctant readers will be able to read this amazing tale on their own, while listeners with a taste for longer read-alouds will enjoy hearing it.—Kara Schaff Dean, Walpole Public Library, MA  
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This book untitled *Titanicat (True Stories)* to be one of several books that best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book shop or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this guide from your list.

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