



The Noose of Laurels: Robert E. Peary and the Race to the North Pole

By Wally Herbert

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Who was first to reach the North Pole: Frederick Cook or Robert Peary? Or did neither? After 80 years of controversy, here is a plausible answer. A 1984 TV program, *The Race to the Pole*, which credited the discovery to Cook, so incensed Peary supporters that the National Geographic Society persuaded his family to release Peary's diary, astronomical observations and private notes for publication. Herbert, author of *Across the Top of the World* and a veteran polar explorer, was invited to assess these documents that had been closeted for 76 years. The material, dating back to Peary's youth, sheds new light on his character and on his obsession with fame. Herbert, who re-traced both the Cook and the Peary routes, here provides an intensive examination of each man's claim to the Pole. He demolishes Cook's claim, then questions Peary's navigation and log-keeping: there were no observations of longitude, and Peary may have been in error on both drift and magnetic variation. Herbert's verdict is that Peary did not reach the North Pole. This is a valuable addition to Arctic history, and a gripping adventure story. Illustrations.

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From Library Journal

While not quite the "definitive answer" to the Peary-Cook polar controversy claimed by the publisher, this book is the most thorough and balanced examination of Peary's "discovery" of the North Pole yet. Cook, probably deservedly, gets somewhat short shrift. English explorer and author (*Across the Top of the World*) Herbert has logged 20,000 miles in the Arctic himself and was the first outsider to have access to some crucial documentation of Peary's final trek. Like many previous investigators, Herbert finds Peary's claims to be insufficiently documented and flawed, but he has a new theory as to how Peary went wrong. Essential for polar buffs, superseding such works as John E. Weems's *Peary* (LJ 2/15/67; o.p.), but somewhat heavy going and detailed for tyros.

- *Jonathan F. Husband, Framingham State Coll. Lib., Mass.*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Austin Lawrence:

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Daryl Steele:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day every day to reading a publication. The book The Noose of Laurels: Robert E. Peary and the Race to the North Pole it is very good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not to fund but this book has high quality.

Lynne Young:

Exactly why? Because this The Noose of Laurels: Robert E. Peary and the Race to the North Pole is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap it but latter it will jolt you with the secret it inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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