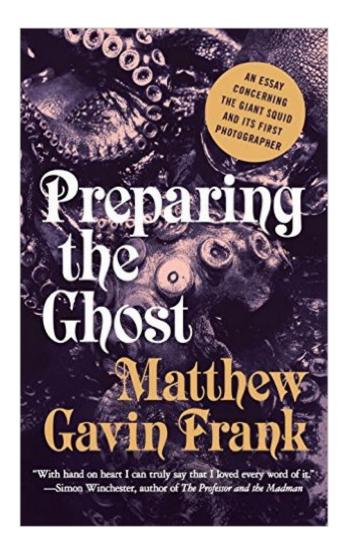
The book was found

Preparing The Ghost: An Essay Concerning The Giant Squid And Its First Photographer





Synopsis

A Shelf Awareness Best Book of 2014 Memory, mythology, and obsession collide in this strikingly original and enigmatic account of the first man to photograph a giant squid. Moses Harvey was the eccentric Newfoundland reverend and amateur naturalist who first photographed the near-mythic giant squid in 1874, draping it over a shower curtain rod to display its magnitude. In Preparing the Ghost, what begins as Mosesâ [™]s story becomes much more, as fellow squid-enthusiast Matthew Gavin Frank boldly winds his narrative tentacles around history, creative nonfiction, science, memoir, and meditations about the interrelated nature of them all. In a full-hearted, lyrical style reminiscent of Geoff Dyer, Frank weaves in playful forays about his research trip to Mosesâ [™]s Newfoundland home, Frankâ [™]s own childhood and family history, and a catalog of bizarre facts and lists that recall Melvilleâ [™]s story of obsession with another deep-sea dwelling leviathan. Though Frank is armed with impressive research, what he canâ [™]t know about Harvey he fictionalizes, quite explicitly, as a way of both illuminating the scene and exploring his central theme: the big, beautiful human impulse to obsess. 15 drawings

Book Information

Hardcover: 320 pages Publisher: Liveright; 1 edition (July 7, 2014) Language: English ISBN-10: 0871402831 ISBN-13: 978-0871402837 Product Dimensions: 4.9 x 1.1 x 7.6 inches Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (10 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #1,130,923 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #115 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers > Essays #374 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Criticism & Essays #457 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology > Marine Biology

Customer Reviews

"Now for the R! Up we go! Attach! Descend! Pay out the line! Whoa! Attach! Good! Up you go! Repeat! Attach! Descend! Pay out line. Whoa, girl! Steady now! Attach! Climb! Attach! Over to the right! Pay out line! Attach! Now right and down and swing that loop and around and around! Now in to the left! Attach! Climb! Repeat! O.K.! Easy, keep those lines together! Now, then, out and down for the leg of the RI Pay out line! Whoa! Attach! Ascend! Repeat! Good girl!"That's Charlotte in E. B. White's Charlotte's Web narrating her acrobatic writing process. You can almost see the little gray spider leaping, twirling, jumping. Creating a miracle of language. Something that's intricate and fragile at once. A thing puzzling and wondrous.I've been carrying a book around in my book bag that is just as strange and beautiful as a dewy spiderweb. Matthew Gavin Frank's Preparing the Ghost, a 282-page meditation on the giant squid, Moses Harvey (the first man to photograph it), monomaniacal obsession (think Captain Ahab chasing a Moby-Dick with tentacles), death by chocolate ice cream, a fatal Chicago heat wave, a grandfather's saxophone legacy, and an Insectarium. Listed like this, these topics seem like dots of paint on a pointilist canvas. But, stepping back, and back, and back, the book becomes an impressionist landscape of our deepest passions.Frank does not lay out his story easily. Like Charlotte the spider, he plays out his lines slowly, weaving his threads together. The reader gets passages of prose poetry mixed with lists of arcane fact. The result is a blend of reality and myth that questions the very fabric of narrative:Myth as quite possible.

Download to continue reading...

Preparing the Ghost: An Essay Concerning the Giant Squid and Its First Photographer An Essay Concerning Human Understanding (Hackett Classics) Flemish Giant Rabbits, A Pet Owner's Guide to Flemish Giant Bunnies How to Care for your Flemish Giant, including Health, Breeding, Personality, Lifespan, Colors, Diet, Facts and Clubs Whale vs. Giant Squid (Who Would Win?) College Essay Essentials: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing a Successful College Admissions Essay Mighty Oak Guide to Mastering the 2016 ACT Essay: For the new (2016-) 36-point ACT essay How to Write a New Killer ACT Essay: An Award-Winning Author's Practical Writing Tips on ACT Essay Prep 101 Recipes for Preparing Food in Bulk: Everything You Need to Know About Preparing, Storing, and Consuming with Companion CD-ROM (Back-To-Basics Cooking) Proust and the Squid: The Story and Science of the Reading Brain Octonauts and the Colossal Squid Kraken: The Curious, Exciting, and Slightly Disturbing Science of Squid The Giant Book of Christian Sheet Music: Easy Piano (Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Book of Christmas Sheet Music: Easy Piano (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Book of Country Sheet Music: Easy Piano (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Pop & Rock Piano Sheet Music Collection: Piano/Vocal/Guitar (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Giant Classic Rock Piano Sheet Music Collection: Piano/Vocal/Guitar (The Giant Book of Sheet Music) The Kentucky Revival: A Short History Of the Late Extraordinary Out-Pouring of the Spirit of God, In the Western States of America, Agreeably to ... and Prophecies Concerning the Latter Day Concerning the Spiritual in Art A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge (Hackett Classics) An Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding

<u>Dmca</u>