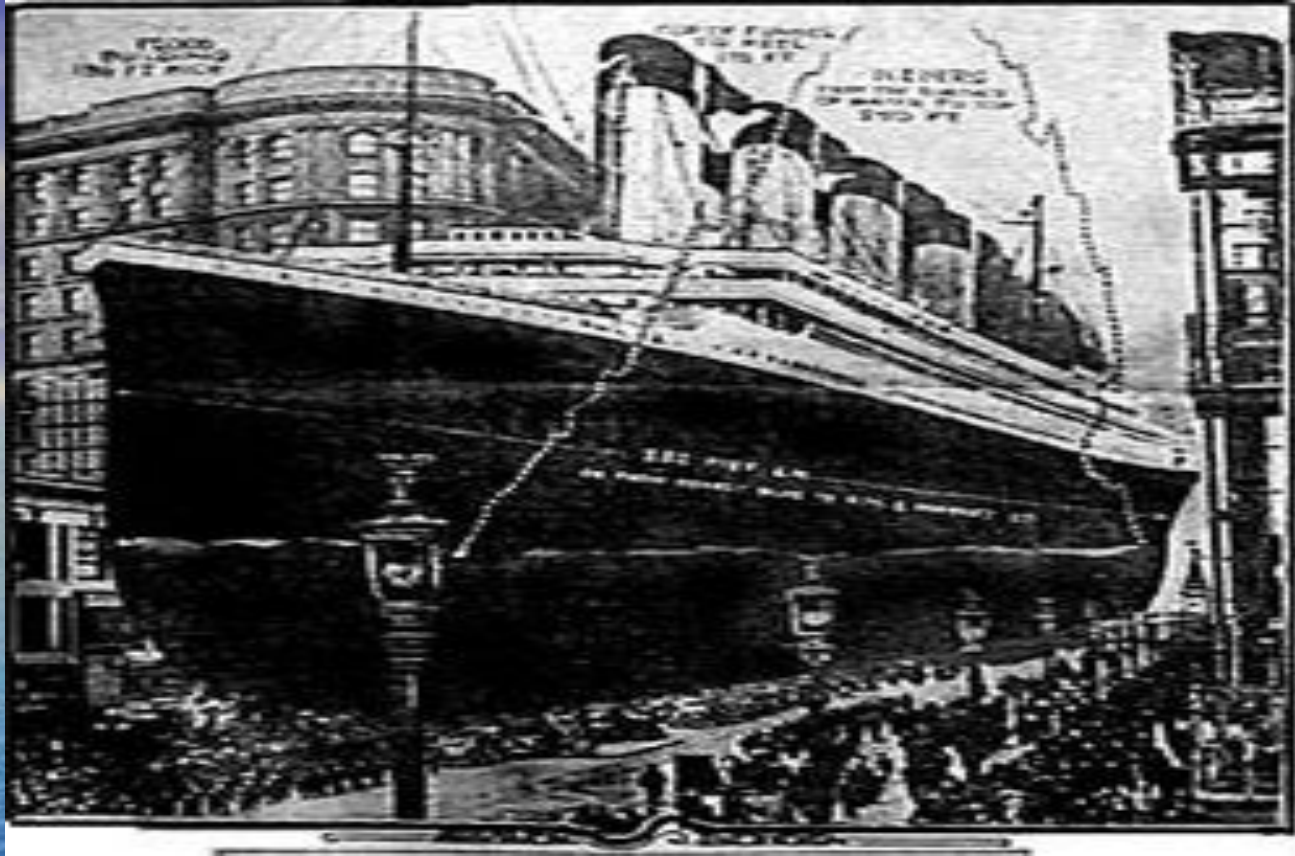


TITANIC



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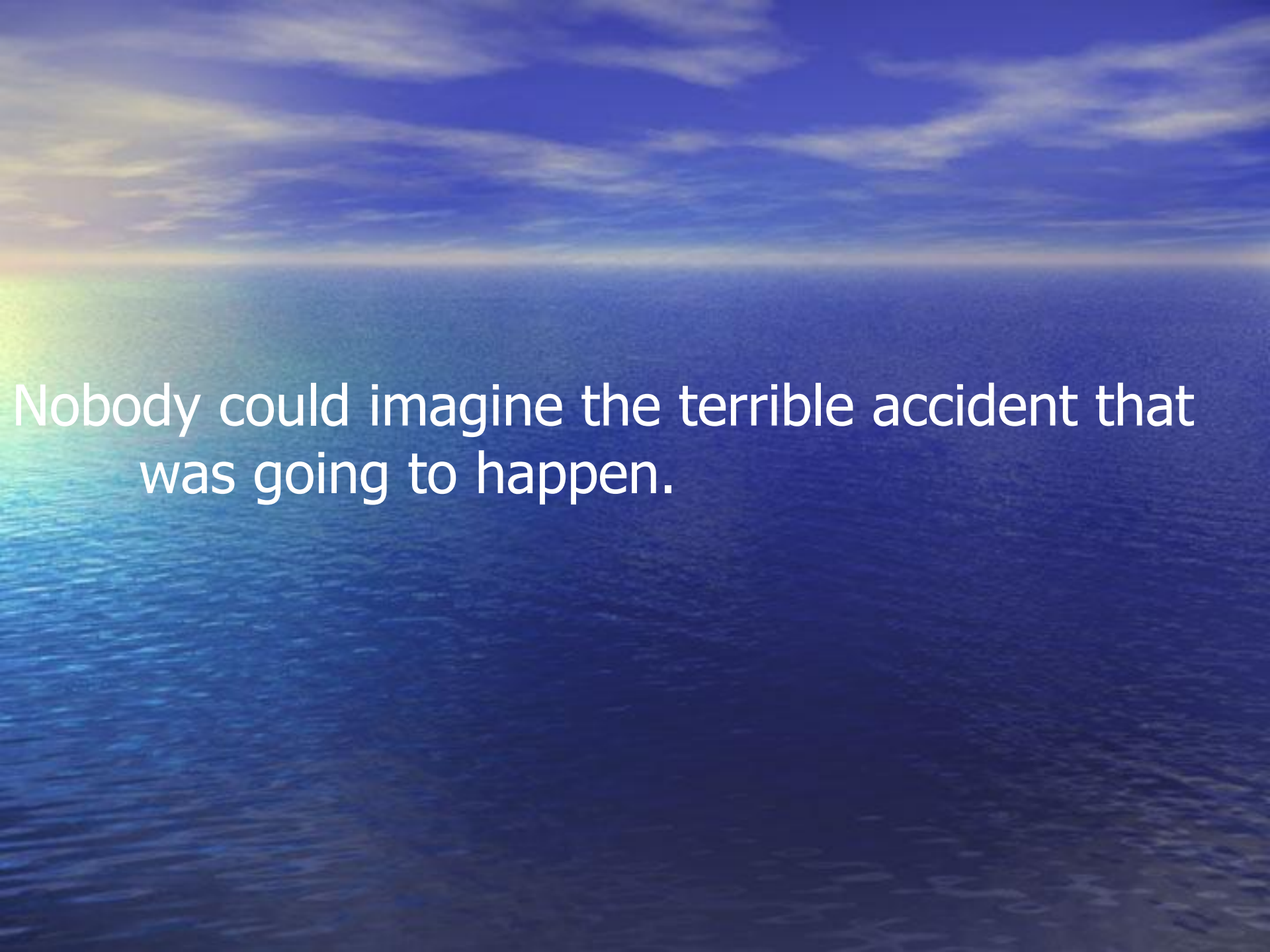
Fifteen thousand people made the Titanic. They made it in 1912 in Belfast Northern Ireland. It was the biggest ship in the world- 24,900 tons. It was 265 metres long, and 28 metres across. It could go at 46 kilometres an hour, so it was one of the fastest ships in the world, too.



"Unsinkable" "Titanic" was lowered on water from Belfast shipyard shipbuilding company "Harland and Wolf" on 31 May, 1911. The following ten months it was beside building wall. Walking test of the "Titanic" were completed on 1 April, 1912, and on April 3 liner arrived in Southampton. A week later it went to New York.



The Titanic was a huge ship, about the length of three football fields. Everyone was very proud of the Titanic. They thought it was the best and the safest ship in history.

A sunset over the ocean with a rainbow on the left side. The sky is a deep blue with wispy white clouds. The water is a dark blue with gentle ripples. A bright rainbow is visible on the left side of the image, extending from the horizon towards the top left corner.

Nobody could imagine the terrible accident that was going to happen.



On the night of 14 April the sea was quiet. Higher up in the ship, two sailors- Fleet and Lee- looked out at the black sea and sky. Suddenly at 11:40 p.m. Fleet saw something in front of the ship. It was an iceberg. "Iceberg! Iceberg!"- he said on the telephone. "There`s an iceberg in front of the ship."

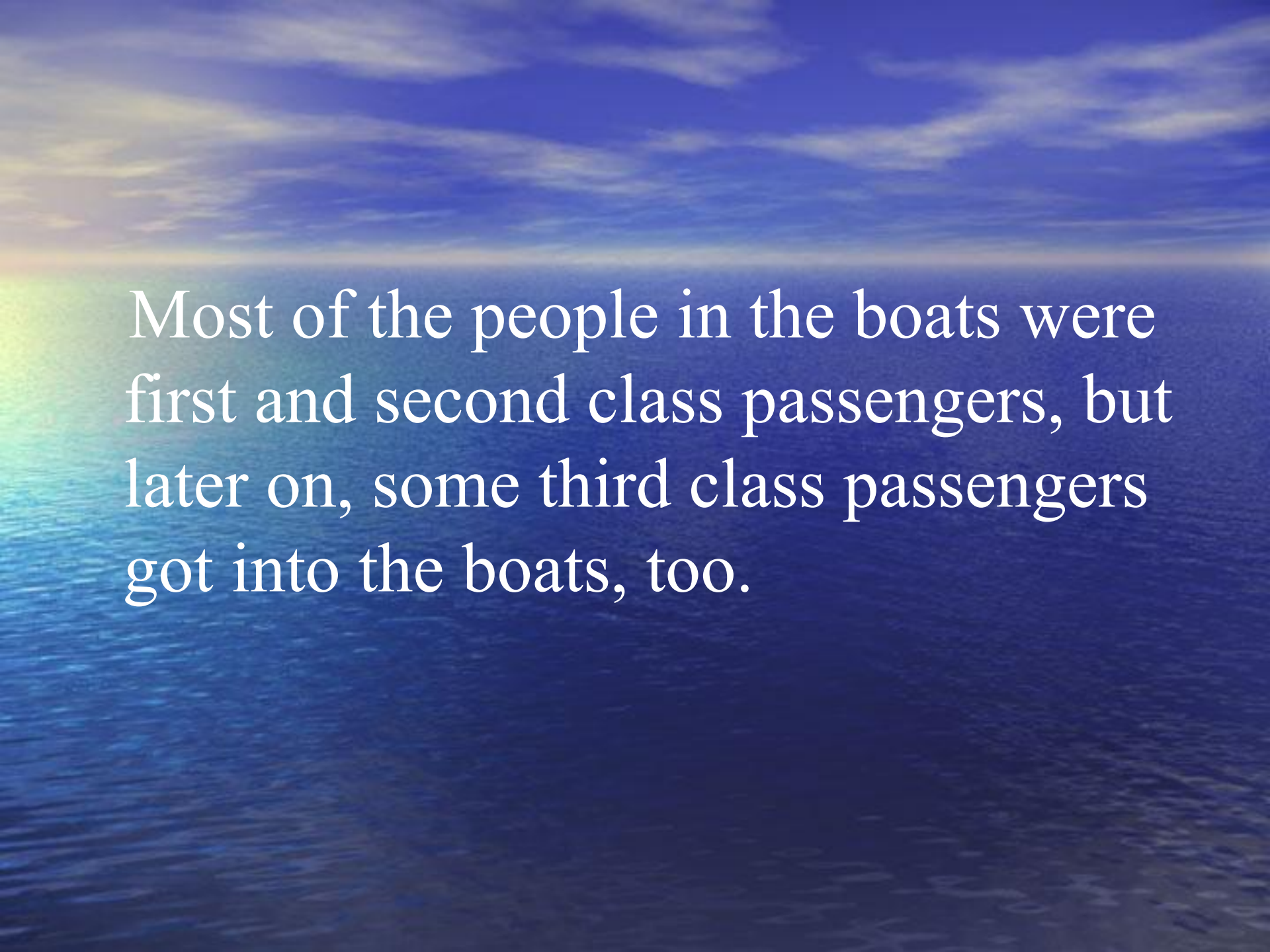


Then, for 37 seconds, nothing happened. As Fleet and Lee watched, the iceberg came nearer and nearer. It was very huge. Then, slowly, the ship went left, and the iceberg went along the right of the ship. Fleet and Lee watched. Their mouths opened. They heard a noise, and the ship moved a little. Then the iceberg went away into the black night.

The Titanic was sinking.



The Titanic had twenty lifeboats. These boats could carry 1178 people; but there were 2207 people on the ship. So for nearly half of the people on the ship, there was no lifeboat. The lifeboats were on the Boat Deck near the first and second class passengers. But there were no lifeboats on E Deck, for the third class passengers. Eighteen of the Titanic's twenty lifeboats went into the sea. Lifeboat D went into the sea at 2:05 a.m. After that, there were only two lifeboats on the ship. But there were 1600 people.



Most of the people in the boats were first and second class passengers, but later on, some third class passengers got into the boats, too.



Some sailors tried to move but it was too late. Water came back along the ship, faster and faster. As the front of the ship went up, up into the air. Some people ran to the back of the ship; some people went into the sea.



The Carpathia heard the Titanic's message at 12:35 a. m. She came very quickly towards the Titanic. At 2:35 a.m. Captain Roston saw a green light over the sea. At 2:45 a.m. his sailors saw an iceberg." "We are going very fast, sir, it isn't safe," a sailor said." "Don't stop. We must get there quickly. The Titanic is sinking." Captain Roston answered.



Four days later the Carpathia came to New York. It had 675 people from the Titanic. 1503 people died. Today, because of the Titanic, ships listen to the radio all the time, night and day. Ships have lifeboats for all their passengers. Aeroplanes watch the ice, and tell ships about the iceberg.

Nobody could not hide the truth: human victims were terrible, and if liner possible to change others, those human lives to return impossible.

Eight musicians of the ship orchestra didn't leave the ship. All this time they played tunes, which earlier raised the mood and created the situation of the peaceful and carelessness, but presently helped to bridge over feeling of the awe. The music, which they played, was their requiem. It gave them right to be brought on a list of the heroes forever.

