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RMS *Titanic* leaving Southampton, England on April 10, 1912. Photo by F.G.O (Francis Goldophin Osbourne) Stuart, a Scottish photographer who turned many of his photographs into postcards. Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

Not even God himself could sink this ship.

White Star Line Employee at *Titanic's* launch
May 31, 1911

Frank Browne's uncle had given his nephew a unique present: a ticket for the first two legs of *Titanic's* maiden voyage. As the world's largest ship left her home port of Southampton to pick up passengers in Cherbourg, France and Queenstown (Cobh), Ireland, Frank (soon to be ordained as a Jesuit priest) was aboard.

Such a gift was everything the picture-taking young man could have imagined. But there was one more thing he desired: to stay aboard *Titanic* as the world's largest ship completed her maiden voyage to New York. An American millionaire offered to pay his way.

Excitedly, Frank sought permission from his superior. The answer was not what the traveler wanted to hear:

Get off that ship!

Turns out, it was the best message Frank could have received. And, because of it, his world-famous photographs still enlighten people about the doomed ship. (Follow the link to one of Frank Browne's last photos of *Titanic* as she left Queenstown for New York.)

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Titanic-The-Fatal-Voyage)

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See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Titanic-The-Fatal-Voyage)

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Questions 2 Ponder

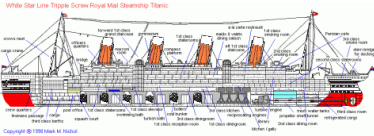
What Is It Like to Avoid a Disaster by Leaving the Ship or Missing a Flight?

When Frank Browne's superior told him—"Get off that ship!"—it was not what the young man wanted to hear. He didn't know then, of course, that the order to leave would ultimately save his life.

Compare Browne's likely feelings, after he learned the news about the sinking, with the reactions people have today when they (for whatever reason) miss a flight and later learn that the plane did not safely arrive at its destination.

Have you ever been ordered to do something you didn't want to do and then, later on, you were grateful about it? What happened?

Media Stream



Titanic - Largest Ship

Drawing of *Titanic*, online courtesy U.S. National Archives.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Titanic-Largest-Ship>



Francis ("Frank") Browne - Titanic Photographer

Photo of Francis Browne, as a young man - online, courtesy FatherBrowne.com

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Francis-Frank-Browne-Titanic-Photographer>

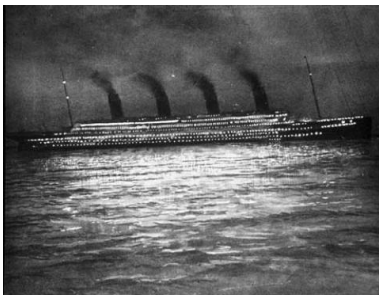


Frank Browne Letter - Passage on the Titanic

Image online, courtesy Titanic Photographs.

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Titanic at Cherbourg

Image online, courtesy Titanic Photographs.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Titanic-at-Cherbourg>



Titanic at Queenstown

Image online, courtesy Titanic Photographs.

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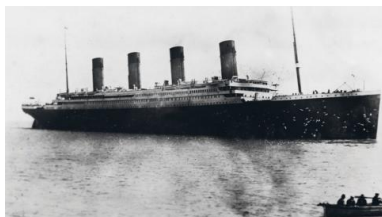


Father Francis ("Frank") Browne

Photo of Father Francis Browne, SJ, in later life - online, courtesy FatherBrowne.com

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Father-Francis-Frank-Browne>

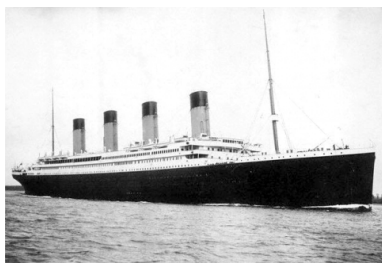


Titanic - Leaving Queenstown

Photo of *Titanic* leaving Queenstown - online, courtesy FatherBrowne.com

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Titanic - The Fatal Voyage

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