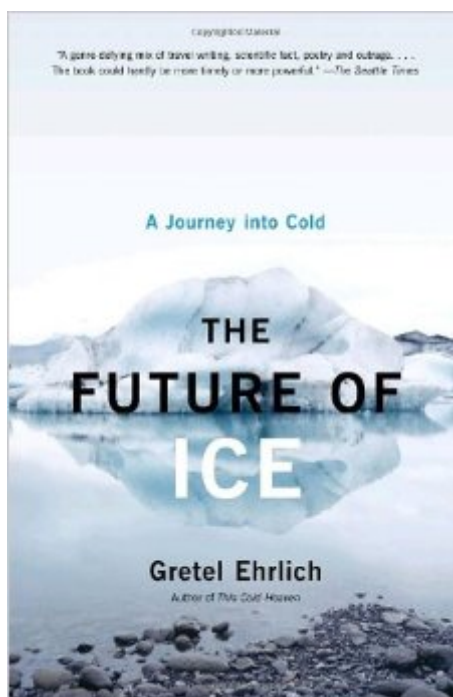


The book was found

The Future Of Ice: A Journey Into Cold



Synopsis

This book was written out of Gretel Ehrlich's love for winter "for remote and cold places, for the ways winter frees our imagination and invigorates our feet, mind, and soul" and also out of the fear that our "democracy of gratification" has irreparably altered the climate. Over the course of a year, Ehrlich experiences firsthand the myriad expressions of cold, giving us marvelous histories of wind, water, snow, and ice, of ocean currents and weather cycles. From Tierra del Fuego in the south to Spitsbergen, east of Greenland, at the very top of the world, she explores how our very consciousness is animated and enlivened by the archaic rhythms and erupting oscillations of weather. We share Ehrlich's experience of the thrills of cold, but also her questions: What will happen to us if we are "deseasoned"? If winter ends, will we survive?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As one of the Arctic scientists in this book readily admits, it is a bit hard to combine all the diverse facts on global warming into a coherent theory. Like Voltaire, this book seems to contain a lot of diverse information in a relatively short space: it is clearly liberal in its political focus, with a number of disparaging comments about the extent of capitalistic exploitation of the environment, but hopeful that man can change his ways. But most of all, it is eclectic in all of its numerous quotes about cold from numerous cultures including Western, Far Eastern, and numerous pagan cultures. They seem to dominate her long essay and sometimes seem to distract from it. I particularly enjoyed her references to Zen Buddhism. She also offers some anecdotal scientific comments on modern astronomy, as she did in her previous book "This Cold Heaven" about Greenland; her comments on

glacial history are a bit weaker. In this book and the former one, she shows a strong familiarity with extremes of cold and snow which most of us lack. She manages to keep her focus on cold climates and the nature of ice throughout, and uses this one climate as the strongest evidence for the reality of global warming. Later I saw the movie "The Day After Tomorrow" which helped my understanding of this book.

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