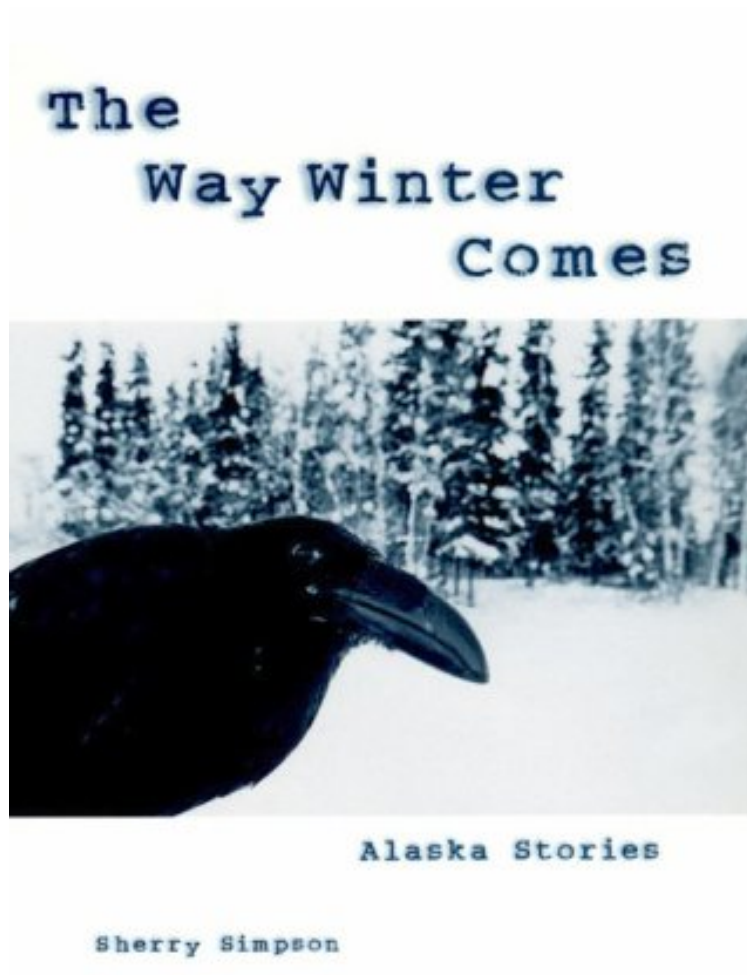


(Mobile pdf) The Way Winter Comes: Alaska Stories

The Way Winter Comes: Alaska Stories

Sherry Simpson

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Sherry Simpson : The Way Winter Comes: Alaska Stories before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Way Winter Comes: Alaska Stories:

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too small. This is just damn GOOD writing by someone who knows how to take the reader places without heavy-handedness. In many ways, I find Simpson's essay to be better than the oft-mentioned names like McPhee, Muir, Gutkind, etc.

Book by Simpson, Sherry

From Publishers Weekly Simpson's debut collection of essays about Alaska, winner of the 1997 Chinook Literary Prize, combines a refreshing voice and vision in a work that is part adventure, part meditation and part natural history lesson. With her distinctive brand of descriptive journalism, she's informative and captivating, lyrical without ever being maudlin, and philosophic without being preachy. Readers will trust the voice immediately because she speaks the language of the Alaskan landscape. Simpson blurs the line between spectator and participant by living the experiences she writes about, and brings readers with her as she tracks the myths and realities of ravens, moose, bears, wolves and winter itself: "Summer carries you away, but winter inhabits you." She goes beyond symbolism to probe the mystery of Alaska while acknowledging that it's a mystery that can never be solved. She doesn't gloss over vulnerabilities and contradictions of the landscape and animal nature Ahumanity and her own included. Ultimately, she wants readers to know that the landscape, although frozen, is alive with activity. "Everything is going somewhere," she writes. In irresistible language, she bewitches the reader just as the Alaskan landscape has bewitched her. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. As she explains, "end-of-the-roader" is a term for those in Alaska who have decided to abandon society and venture into the wilderness seeking peace or oblivion or sometimes even violence. The term might also well describe where Simpson takes her readers in this collection of stories. Once "the road" is left behind, we set off on an unforgettable journey into a hostile yet compelling world where peace may be just over the next mountain and violence can be lurking behind the next bush -- The Monterey Country Post, Dec. 17, 1998 Once in a great while, even this foreigner gets an inkling that she is reading something truly Western, truly indigenous. These are the books that could be read anywhere, because their roots go so deep into Western soil that they join the other strong, place-inspired literatures at the molten canon at the Earth's core. Read these stories in New York and you can still be stung by the wind off the tundra -- Los Angeles Times Book , Oct. 25, 1998 Readers will trust the voice immediately because she speaks the language of the Alaskan landscape. Simpson blurs the line between spectator and participant by living the experiences she writes about.... Ultimately, she wants readers to know that the landscape, although frozen, is alive with activity. "Everything is going somewhere," she writes. In irresistible language, she bewitches the reader just as the Alaskan landscape has bewitched her (Publisher's Weekly, Sept. 14, 1998). REVIEW: ...a journalist's objectivity combined with a poet's love of words... -- Juneau Empire, Sept. 24, 1998