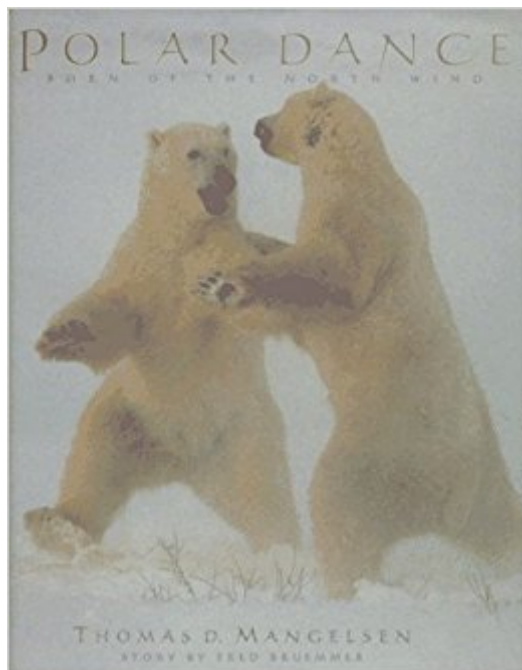


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Polar Dance: Born Of The North Wind



Synopsis

Book by Mangelsen, Thomas D., Bruemmer, Fred

Book Information

Hardcover: 264 pages

Publisher: Images of Nature; 1st edition (September 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1890310034

ISBN-13: 978-1890310035

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 12.4 x 1.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.9 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

An award-winning nature photographer, Mangelsen followed polar bears for eight years to collect the images featured here, over 250 exquisite color photographs that take the reader on a year-long journey through the Arctic. The accompanying text, by Canadian naturalist Bruemmer, chronicles a year in the life of a mother polar bear and her cubs and a young male bear as they experience the changing seasons in their Arctic wilderness habitat. The book's focus is on the polar bear but is balanced with images of walrus, seals, foxes, birds, characteristic vegetation, and the seasonally changing landscape. Mangelsen has surpassed his goal of creating a "beautiful picture book on bears," as this volume also presents a learning forum for those who seek an understanding of the Arctic but are unlikely to travel there. Sitting down with this book is an absorbing experience that will leave the reader with a new respect and admiration for the Arctic and its inhabitants. Highly recommended. Deborah Emerson, Monroe Community Coll., Rochester, N.Y. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Mangelsen is a well-known nature photographer, and in *Polar Dance*, he has produced what is probably the definitive collection of images of polar bears. These "ice bears" spend most of their lives in a land of snow and ice (the polar summer lasts mere weeks), and Mangelsen's evocative

photos of white bears covered in snow, lying spread-eagled on pack ice, or swimming among ice floes give the reader a sense of this harsh habitat. Bruemmer's text is a factual account of arctic ecology and the niche the polar bear fills in this surprisingly rich ecosystem, coupled with two interspersed, parallel stories covering a year in the lives of a lone male bear and a female bear with two cubs. The text is informative, but a bibliography or lists of citations would have greatly added to its value as a reference source. This lush coffee-table book is recommended for libraries with large natural-history collections. Nancy Bent

I enjoyed both the narrative and the photography, and learned interesting things I didn't know - both about social structures and physiology. I basically loved this book. Because of when it was written, it also doesn't sermonize about climate change -- I believe we need to be good stewards of the earth, its resources, and wildlife but tire of the hyperbole about climate change. A great book on many levels. Am very pleased I bought it, and will share with others.

I love this book!! First, the book's name as its cover photo: Polar Dance. It's really a creative and vivid name for the whole book. Second, it's the largest polar bear book I've ever seen. Of course, there are plenty of amazing photos inside. I love the way of the author introducing the photos: you can see all the photos without any words disturbance in your field of view, using your own imaginary to give a name for the photos and the check it at the end of book. Maybe first time you will find it not convenient; however, after a while, you're gonna love it. Third, the quality of printing is worthy the money. I'm fortunate to get a used book but like brand new condition. I haven't finished reading the words but at least for the photos, it is really an amazing polar bear book.

Wonderful book not only with the amazing photographs but the extensive info about polar bears in general. Everyone interested in nature needs a copy. Tom Mangelsen's photos are exceptional as usual.

The photos are amazing. What delighted me was that the text is also interesting to read. Often with these photo books you end up not reading the text but that was not the case with this book. I highly recommend this for any level of reader.

This book was made from the photographs of a famous photographer Thomas D. Mangelsen. It also includes a lot of back ground on the polar bears. It is full of wonderful shots of the polar bears which

makes the book about one and a half to two inches thick. It is a bit bigger than a text book. I adore wild life and this book is now a favorite in my collection.

very nice

outstanding book. If you have not viewed the photos in Polar Dane: born of the North wind you should. Excellent artist/photographer.

"Polar Dance", Thomas Mangelsen's 1997 coffee table book-sized collection of his iconic images of polar bears, continues to amaze. Its contents, including naturalist Fred Bruemmer's narrative of the polar bear's life cycle, are if anything more relevant in light of concerns over global warming and its possible effects on polar bear habitat in the Far North. The book's nearly 300 stunning color photographs chronicle the travels of a polar bear sow and her two cubs, and of a lone male polar bear, through a season in the Canadian Arctic. Along the way, other animals, such as arctic foxes and caribou, make appearances. But this book really about the bears, from their awakening in their winter dens, to summer foraging and autumn scrounging. Mengelsen's images, many of them page-size, capture a harsh but beautiful environment, with captivating space and light conditions and a horizon that seems sometimes to go forever. Bruemmar's text is informative but unobtrusive; the emphasis is on the pictures of the great white bears. "Polar Dance" is very highly recommended, even in used condition, to readers with an interest in the polar bear and its natural realm.

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