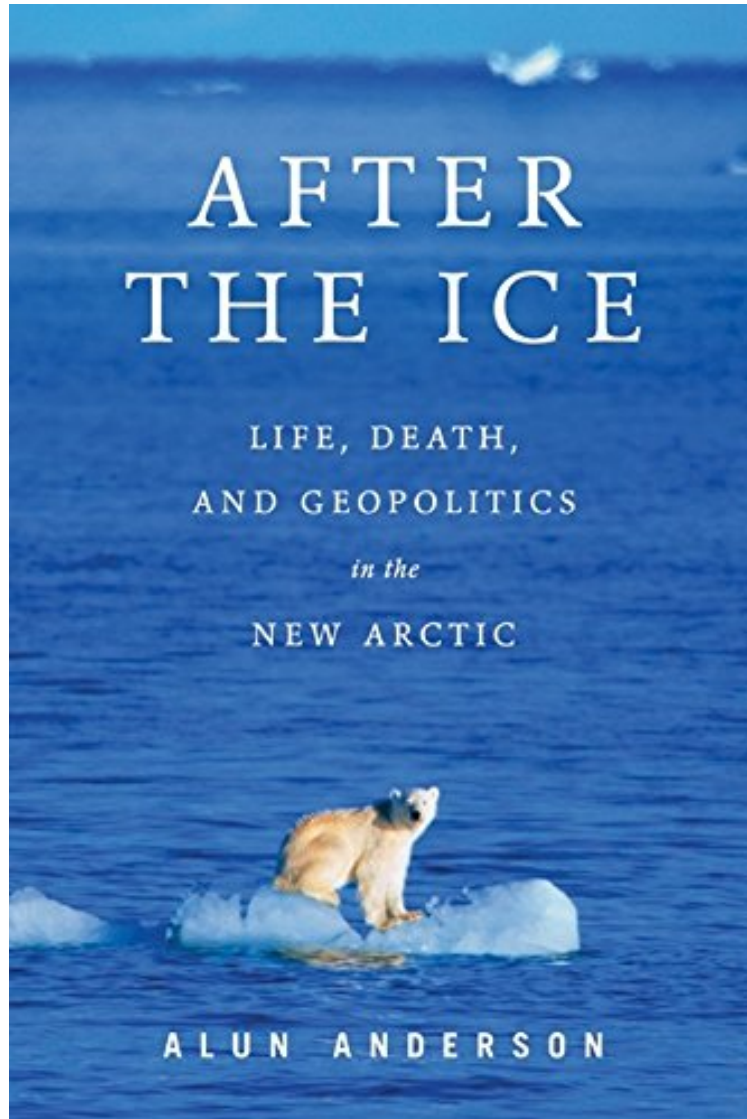


[Pdf free] After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic

After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic

Alun Anderson

ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



 Download

 Read Online

#1827613 in Books 2009-12-01 2009-12-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 1.01 x 6.001, 1.00
#File Name: 0061579076304 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Alun Anderson : After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A convincing case study: this is our future By Richard Middleton This very well-written book is a calm, factual and compelling account of the realities of climate change. Deniers may make fun of scientists' differences about the likely extent of the speed and extent of the ways in which our world will be affected, and use these as excuses for inaction, but, by focusing just on the incontrovertible changes

in the Arctic, Alun Anderson reminds us sharply that non-productive partisan debate is a luxury we can no longer afford. Not only is the entire ecosystem in turmoil, but the existence of open water where there used to be impenetrable ice has profound geopolitical effects that we ignore at our peril. I bought a second copy of the book immediately after I finished reading it. This one will be on loan to my friends, and I doubt I will get it back for a long time!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. After the Ice: A Captivating Look at a Dire Situation By S. Savant

Alun Anderson's book *After the Ice* gives many different perspectives on climate change that are often overlooked. Throughout the book, Anderson's main goal is to educate the reader, in a succinct and simple manner, about why the Arctic is vital to the world and how much of an impact the loss of ice will have. This book gives a new and private view on the effects of global warming and climate change. Anderson delves deep into the personal experiences of the native people of the Arctic. In doing so, he replaces the distant picture of a melting expanse of ice with one of human suffering and loss. Anderson also refutes the common notion that global warming is not affecting us by showing that the ice is vanishing as we speak. And although it is too late to stop the process completely, he says we can still slow the process down enough to possibly allow the people and animal species time to adapt. In short, Anderson simplifies complex and misunderstood problems into something that is easy to grasp. Anderson boldly attempts to balance the sad realities of the present Arctic with the hopeful possibilities of the future Arctic. He condenses all of the uses and effects of ice into one concise book - and all of the information is effectively supported with facts and statistics from knowledgeable experts in the field. Although Anderson's writing is filled with detailed evidence, it is not dense. His writing style is relatively easy to read and friendly to average readers - a great asset to his cause. This book is a must read for all levels of environmental knowledge. The topics in Anderson's book often caused me to ponder about feedback processes, weather cycles, and if countries had the right to "own" the Arctic - all issues I never would have thought about before reading about it. And if reading Anderson's book caused all readers to think twice about these important issues, Anderson will have achieved his goal. A captivating read, *After the Ice* informs readers about the Arctic and the hopeful future it holds and should be high on your list of books to read.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. After the Ice: Life, Death, and Geopolitics in the New Arctic By C. Richard Byers

After the Ice is a wake-up call. The prediction that the summer ice in the Arctic will be gone by 2100 is wrong. New convincing evidence rolls the prediction backward. It will come much earlier - with dates ranging from 2016 to 2045. The summer ice is melting from beneath, by warm temperate ocean waters being transported to the Arctic and by air pollution, not global warming, from above. It answered my questions as to why the entire Arctic and Greenland is melting fast while only the west side of the Antarctic ice is disappearing. What's scary is what will happen when the summer ice is gone and the Arctic starts absorbing heat instead of reflecting it? Will the planet thermometer make a sudden jump? Nearly all the documented information is in stark contrast to what certain politicians and certain news agencies would have us believe. Alun Anderson did a marvelous job in his two years of traveling throughout the Arctic talking to scientists, nuclear submarine captains, and the inhabitants. His sources are many, from the 1800's to the present, all listed, a real eye opening peek into a rapidly changing Arctic with effects that will be felt worldwide.

New from Smithsonian Books, *After the Ice* is an eye-opening look at the winners and losers in the high-stakes story of Arctic transformation, from nations to native peoples to animals and the very landscape itself. Author Alun Anderson explores the effects of global warming amid new geopolitical rivalries, combining science, business, politics, and adventure to provide a fascinating narrative portrait of this rapidly changing land of unparalleled global significance.

From Publishers Weekly

For decades, scientists knew that the Arctic's summer ice had been slowly shrinking, but they did not anticipate that "an enormous area" would suddenly melt away in 2007: "Explanations kept changing as the Arctic sprang new surprises." Global warming in itself was not a sufficient explanation, nor was "Arctic Oscillation," fluctuating wind patterns that create changes in atmospheric pressure. Searching for answers, Anderson, former editor-in-chief of *New Scientist* magazine, travelled extensively in the region - "Svalbard, Alaska, Norway, the Canadian Islands and both Coasts of Greenland" - checking out a hypothesis that the Oscillation had formed thinner surface layers, which melt more quickly. Satellite pictures, combined with underwater submarine probes, tracked the motion of the ice over several summers, allowing scientists to "follow areas of ice as they moved... and track which ice survived," chart the effects of salinity variations, and more. Anderson also meets members of the Inuit community, traditional hunter-trappers who share "troubled stories" of forced relocations, efforts to preserve self-rule, and adapting to the realities of climate change. In this fascinating, insightful overview, Anderson asserts that the days of the "iconic big beasts of the Arctic" are numbered, but remains hopeful about the Arctic's uncertain future. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist

Anderson, a biologist and former editor in chief for *New Scientist*, was thrilled to see his first polar bear on his first trip to the High Arctic, until a colleague pointed out that the bear was starving to death. Endangered polar bears are emblematic of the drastic changes under way in the Arctic, but there are many more stories to tell about this land in flux. Anderson traveled far and wide, speaking with reindeer herders, hunters, and dozens of experts in diverse fields, piecing together the most

panoramic picture yet of this crucial region. Delving into Arctic history, he offers fresh insights into the traditions of indigenous people and the consequences of Arctic exploration, colonization, exploitation, and pollution; and he is equally adept at parsing the growing international scramble for the Arctic's oil, gas, and minerals. With measurements from satellites and submarines quantifying the rapid shrinking of Arctic ice, Anderson joins the call to reduce carbon emissions to slow global warming. Inquisitive, cogent, and compelling, Anderson shares his findings, concerns, and fascination with this vulnerable place of profound and diverse beauty. --Donna Seaman

From the Back Cover

An eye-opening look at the winners and losers in the high-stakes story of Arctic transformation, from nations to natives to animals to the very landscape itself

The Arctic like the canary in the coal mine has reacted more quickly and dramatically to global warming than many had anticipated. Hundreds of scientists are urgently trying to predict just how the Arctic will change and how those changes will in turn affect the rest of the planet. But plenty of other people, driven by profit rather than data, are interested as well. The riches of the world's last virgin territory have spurred the reawakening of old geopolitical rivalries. The United States, Canada, Russia, Norway, and the Danish territory of Greenland all control areas around the Arctic Ocean. We face a new era of oil rigs and drill ships, of tankers taking shortcuts from Yokohama to Rotterdam, as well as a potential fight over the Arctic's treasures.

Alongside the winners from an open Arctic sea are the many losers, from the nomadic reindeer herders of Siberia and Scandinavia to the Inuit hunters of Alaska, Greenland, and Canada. Other creatures that rely on the vast expanses of sea ice, including seals, birds, and whales and the ecosystems within which they live may disappear to be replaced by different creatures.

Combining science, business, politics, and adventure, Alun Anderson takes the reader to the ends of the earth for what may be the last narrative portrait of this rapidly changing land of unparalleled global significance.