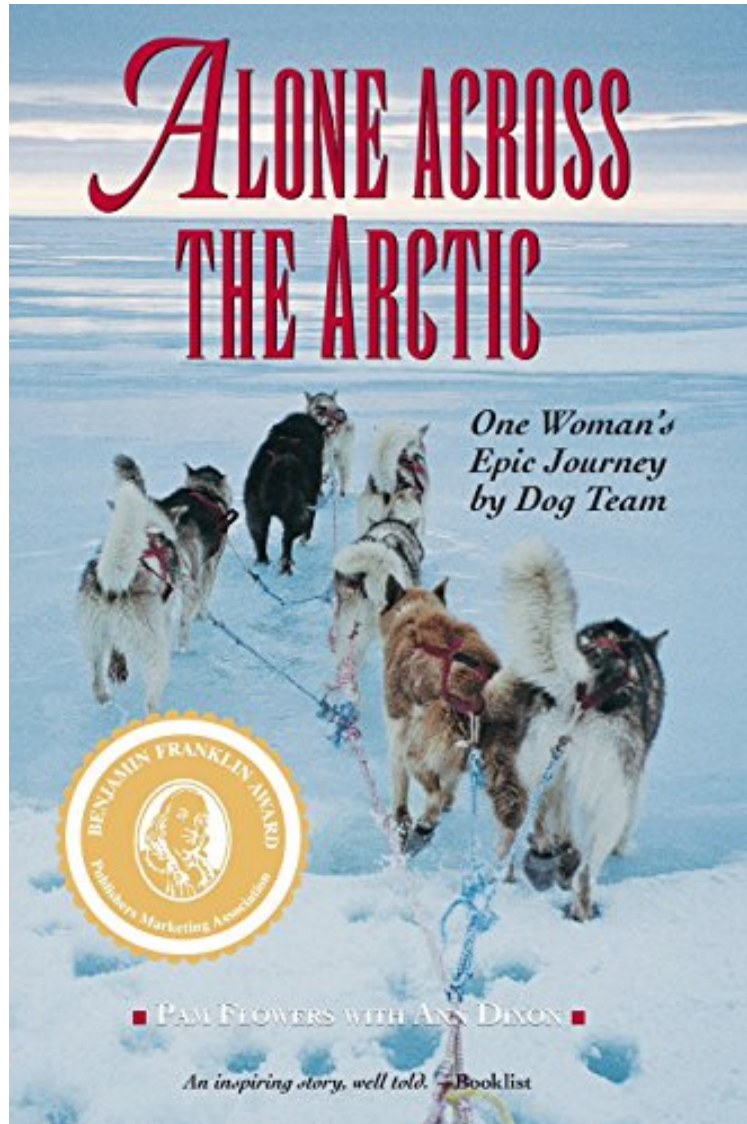


[Mobile book] Alone Across the Arctic: One Woman's Epic Journey by Dog Team

## Alone Across the Arctic: One Woman's Epic Journey by Dog Team

*Pam Flowers*

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**Pam Flowers : Alone Across the Arctic: One Woman's Epic Journey by Dog Team** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alone Across the Arctic: One Woman's Epic Journey by Dog Team:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dreams FulfilledBy CustomerExcellent memoir focused on planning and persistence; the right stuff for making dreams come true--along with support, companionship and dedication from canine friends.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Abu TekalSo exciting!

Pam Flowers' newest book just published(!), *SOJO, MEMOIRS OF A RELUCTANT SLED DOG*, chronicles the life of one of Pam's sled dogs and is told from the dog's perspective in a jaunty style sure to delight readers of all ages.

Pam spurned conventional rewards, entrusted her dream to eight powerful huskies, and set out alone to cross the Arctic. . . . a most extraordinary journey. Sir Ranulph Fiennes, renowned adventurer A fine armchair read . . . packed with ongoing action. The Bookwatch Forget mystery novels! I couldn't put this book down. Patricia McConnell, PhD, Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist Gr 5-10- With a young dogsled team, no sponsors, and no spare lead dog, Flowers set out to fulfill a lifelong dream to retrace, in reverse, a 1923-24 expedition by Norwegian explorer Knud Rasmussen and two Inuit companions, who traveled the length of the North American coast by dog team. If Flowers succeeded, she would be the first female and first American to mush that route solo. Using a balanced content of narrative, journal entries, boxed information bits, and numerous photographs, Flowers, with Dixon, details the exhilarating and often harrowing journey. Journal excerpts capture much of the emotion: "My eyelashes freeze together and I can't open my eyes. I have to crawl back to the tent on my knees-and frantically claw the snow away from my eyes." Readers will be fascinated by the descriptions of her dog team, introduced individually with photographs and comments. About Roald, for example, she writes: "Though intelligent, Roald lacked confidence, which sometimes caused him to clown around rather than try his hardest." A list of equipment and supplies is included. The message of this exciting book is important. At journey's end, as she stood alone with her dogs, she summarized her emotions. "The dogs, I believe, felt it too. We'd done well, and in doing so, had won what I consider the greatest reward of all: self-respect. We carry it with us wherever we go." This is an engaging survival story with broad appeal. School Library Journal Coauthored with Dixon, a children's book author (*Blueberry Shoe*), this exciting memoir recounts Flowers's 2,500-mile journey across the North American Arctic, undertaken at the age of 46. Retracing in reverse a 1924 expedition led by Norwegian explorer Knud Rasmussen, Flowers and her eight sled dogs mushed from Barrow, Alaska, to Repulse Bay in Northwest Canada, becoming the first woman and the first American to do so. Fulfilling a lifelong dream and driven by an adventurous spirit forged in childhood, she left her job as a respiratory therapist and began seriously training for the expedition in 1992; the trip began in February 1993. The sled dogs, for whom the author has "tremendous respect," ranged in age from one to nine years and spring to life through descriptions of their strengths and distinct personalities. Dependent on one another for survival, Flowers details the care she took to make sure the dogs received enough food, water, rest and love for each day's travel. She recounts how her lead dog, Douggie, was able to sense the right direction even when she could not. She and her dogs battled cold, wind, storms and exhaustion on the tundra. Their isolation was broken by brief visits with settlers in the small Alaskan and Canadian communities where they rested and Flowers picked up supplies. At one point, due to unsafe summertime sea ice, she briefly considered giving up. Instead, the team rested for several months in an Inuit village and successfully completed the expedition in January 1994. Publishers Weekly A freelance writer for several outdoor magazines and a participant in Alaska's famous Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, Flowers here chronicles her 2500-mile, solo dogsled journey from Point Barrow, AK, to Repulse Bay in the Northwest Territory of Canada. Her journey began in the dark of winter 1993 as she sledged east following a route first taken by the fifth Thule Expedition in 1922. Even though Alaskan sled dogs are wild, bred to pull, and usually kept chained up when not hitched to a sled, Flowers developed a close relationship with each of her eight dogs (each of whose personalities she describes here). But despite all her affection, she almost had to abandon the trip when her lead dog, Douggie, ran away for 12 days. Along the way, she steadfastly endured the persistent Arctic storms and the ever-present fear of animal predators and encountered many of the people and places described in Jonathan Waterman's *ARCTIC CROSSING*. Beautiful color photographs greatly enhance this delightful and well-written story of perseverance. Recommended for public libraries. SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL An inspiring story, well told. --Booklist