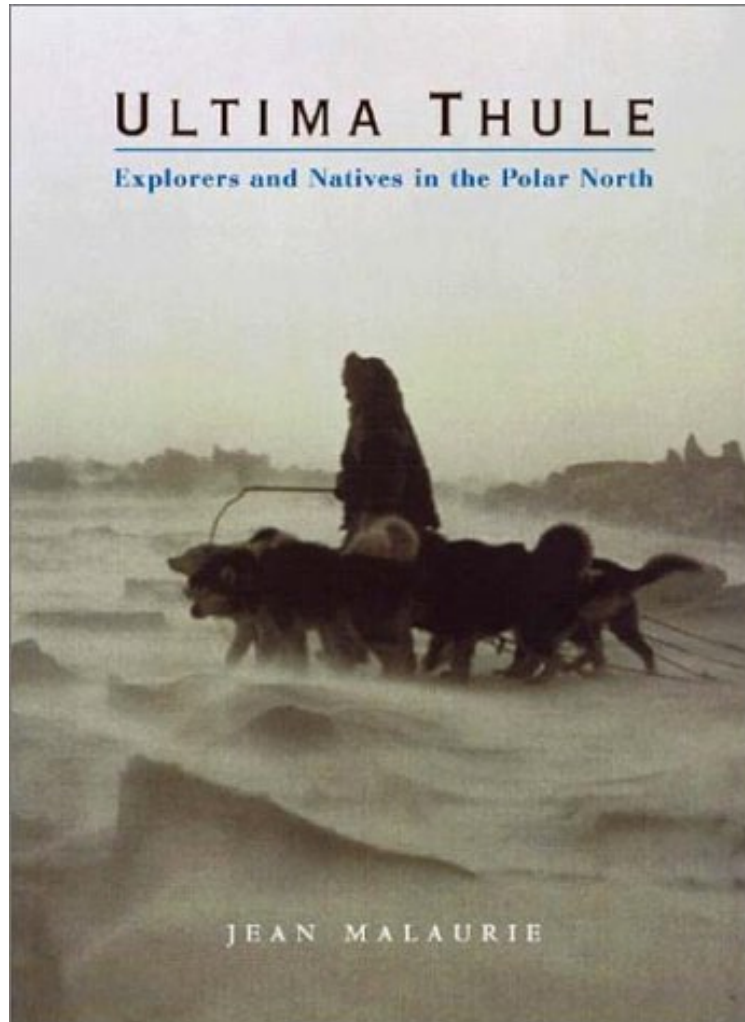


[FREE] Ultima Thule: Explorers and Natives in the Polar North

## Ultima Thule: Explorers and Natives in the Polar North

*Jean Malaurie*

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**Jean Malaurie : Ultima Thule: Explorers and Natives in the Polar North** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ultima Thule: Explorers and Natives in the Polar North:

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book my way. Recently I spent time in Norway with a man who takes expeditions to the North Pole and who visits Greenland frequently as part of his work and for his enjoyment. I could not imagine what the lure was but after looking through the expeditions, history, and people of this area I can see his fascination. I did not understand how many expeditions and adventures there are to be had in the area but now I understand. I mostly enjoyed the pictures. Thank you for getting the book to me.

An illustrated history of 170 years of Arctic exploration and its effects on indigenous peoples. Ultima Thule is the terrible and yet fantastic story of European and American exploration in the polar north. Based on excerpts from the explorers' logs counterbalanced by Inuit testimony, it brings to life both sides of the clash that arose when white men arrived in the Far North, dreaming of conquest and believing that they brought with them a civilization superior to that of the indigenous peoples they found. Today, the outlook for the Inuit and the polar environment is bleak: the people and their landscape are in danger of disappearing for good. But according to Jean Malaurie, the situation is not altogether without hope. Heavily illustrated with period photographs, engravings, artifacts, and drawings, the book gives the readers the impression of having an entire museum of North Pole history in their hands. 650 color and black-and-white photographs

From Publishers Weekly Striving to be the ultimate coffee-table book on the Arctic; its white explorers; and the Inuits, the northernmost native people on Earth, this work succeeds grandly. With its breathtaking illustrations, extensive sidebars (largely diary entries, historical documents and ethnographic material) and a condensed history of Arctic exploration and Inuit life, it's hard to imagine anything better. It's also hard to imagine anything bigger (10"14"), heavier (over six pounds) or more expensive (\$75), a perfect example of what CD-ROMs were supposed to replace. French explorer and geographer Malaurie became an ethnographer of the Inuit people after his extended stay in the early 1950s, where he witnessed and then exposed the establishment of a secret American nuclear base in the Inuit capital of Thule, which devastated the tiny native population. Here, he traces the history of despoliation, beginning with the first Arctic explorer to encounter the Inuit (Captain Ross in 1818) and ending with himself and the revival of Inuit life. Each chapter in between is devoted to Arctic explorers and their expeditions in chronological order. Malaurie's version of anthropology reverses the roles of savage and civilized, and his historical accounts of Arctic expeditions' murder, mutiny and mysticism are always fascinatingly told in surprisingly clear and comprehensible prose. Period photographs, engravings, artifacts, maps and drawings help demystify the unknown Arctic. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: French About the Author Jean Malaurie, an Arctic explorer since the age of twenty-six, spent a year sharing the daily life of the Inuit in 1950. Today he lives in Paris and is the author of several books on the polar regions.