

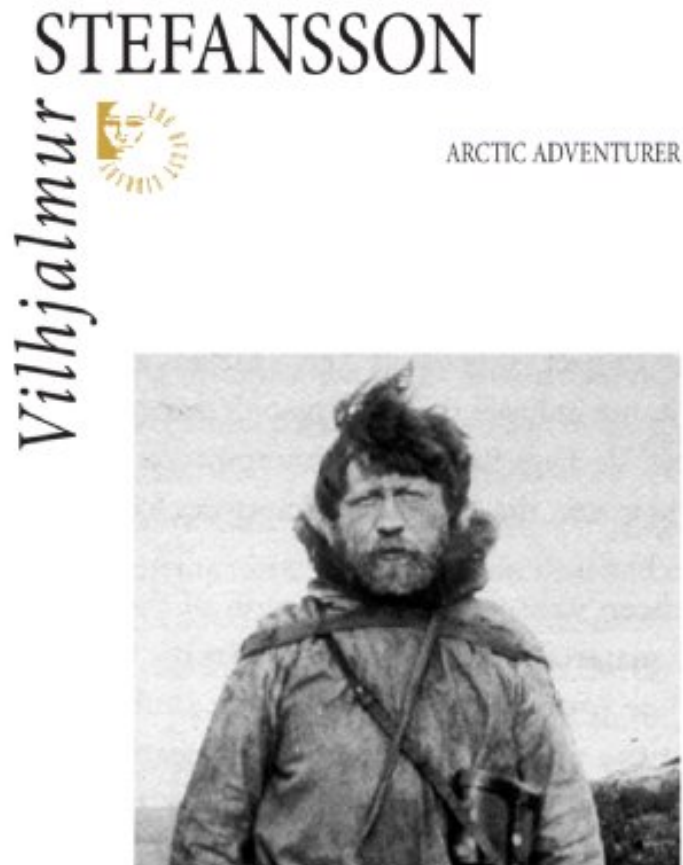
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Vilhjalmur Stefansson: Arctic Adventurer (Quest Biography)

Tom Henighan

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 TOM HENIGHAN



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Tom Henighan : Vilhjalmur Stefansson: Arctic Adventurer (Quest Biography) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vilhjalmur Stefansson: Arctic Adventurer (Quest Biography):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Here is a great resource for those of you who would like to ...By Kristin Newton Vilhjalmur Stefansson was my Icelandic grandmother's cousin so I've been very intested in finding out more about him. I guess this book would be a quick introduction for someone with a passing interest, but I found it

quite superficial and disappointing, as did the previous reviewer. Here is a great resource for those of you who would like to read about him in more depth: [The legacy of Vilhjalmur Stefansson](http://www.thearctic.is/articles/topics/legacystefansson/enska/kafli_0200.htm).http://www.thearctic.is/articles/topics/legacystefansson/enska/kafli_0200.htm

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Introduction to a Great Explorer By Wilfred Tom Henighan's biography of Vilhjalmur Stefansson is a very useful introduction to the great explorer, detailed, accurate, readable and occasionally challenging in its conclusions. Henighan treats Stefansson's life and career with sympathy and objectivity; his mistakes and faults are not glossed over, but his great achievements are also noted. The book summarizes the various points-of-view on Stefansson and places him intelligently as one of the last of the great traditional explorers. His expertise in surviving in some of the most inhospitable environments on the planet, his sympathy for the Inuit's adaptations and life-style, his exciting vision of the North- all of these are detailed, but his tendency to self-promotion and his sometimes impractical schemes are also made clear. Stefansson's personal life is sketched in as well, and the sad fate of his Inuit family described, along with his connections with the sophisticated New York intelligentsia of his time. This book is imaginatively written, and provides an excellent annotated bibliography, as well as a very useful time-chart which traces the events of Stefansson's life in tandem with the parallel events in Canada and the world at large. The old photographs from Canadian and Dartmouth University archives are well chosen, and add to the book's value. This is a must-read for anyone with the slightest interest in Stefansson, the North, or the future development of the Arctic. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing and superficial By Dr. Bob Disappointing and superficial biographical notes based apparently on previous biographies followed by disjointed essays about the north, exploration, and history.

Born in Manitoba of Icelandic parents, Vilhjalmur Stefansson (1879-1962) became one of Canada's most famous and controversial Arctic explorers. After graduate studies in anthropology at Harvard University, Stefansson lived with and studied Inuit in the Mackenzie River Delta in the Northwest Territories in the winter of 1906-07. In two subsequent expeditions he completed a major anthropological survey of the Central and Western Arctic coasts and islands of North America; located and lived with the Copper Inuit, a previously unknown group of aboriginal people; and discovered the world's last major land masses. During his third and final great Arctic expedition from 1913 to 1918, some of Stefansson's men perished tragically, an outcome that severely damaged his reputation. Nevertheless, the hardy explorer contributed immensely to knowledge about the Far North, particularly in his championing of the "Friendly Arctic." Part scientist, part showman, Vilhjalmur Stefansson was truly unique among polar adventurers.

a character study, portraying Stefansson sympathetically in spite of his failings, which were certainly in evidence. The impression is one of balance, a quality that has been sorely needed in connection with the Stefansson story. (Icelandic Canadian Magazine) (Vilhjalmur Stefansson) provides a quick, analytical introduction to this complex explorer. (Beaver, The) "...a good starting point for learning more about an explorer who was the toast of our town almost a century ago." (Times-Colonist, The) Born in Manitoba of Icelandic parents, Vilhjalmur Stefansson (1879-1962) became one of Canada's most famous and controversial Arctic explorers. After graduate studies in anthropology at Harvard University, Stefansson lived with and studied Inuit in the Mackenzie River Delta in the Northwest Territories in the winter of 1906-07. In two subsequent expeditions he completed a major anthropological survey of the Central and Western Arctic coasts and islands of North America; located and lived with the Copper Inuit, a previously unknown group of aboriginal people; and discovered the world's last major land masses. During his third and final great Arctic expedition from 1913 to 1918, some of Stefansson's men perished tragically, an outcome that severely damaged his reputation. Nevertheless, the hardy explorer contributed immensely to knowledge about the Far North, particularly in his championing of the "Friendly Arctic." Part scientist, part showman, Vilhjalmur Stefansson was truly unique among polar adventurers. From the Inside Flap One of Canada's most famous and controversial Arctic explorers, Vilhjalmur Stefansson contributed immensely to knowledge about the Far North. About the Author Tom Henighan is the author of several novels for young people, including Viking Quest, Viking Terror (nominated for the Ottawa Book Award), Mercury Man (nominated for the Red Maple Award), and Demon in My View. In 2008 he was honoured with the Victor Tolgey Arts Award for his contributions to culture in Ottawa, where he lives.