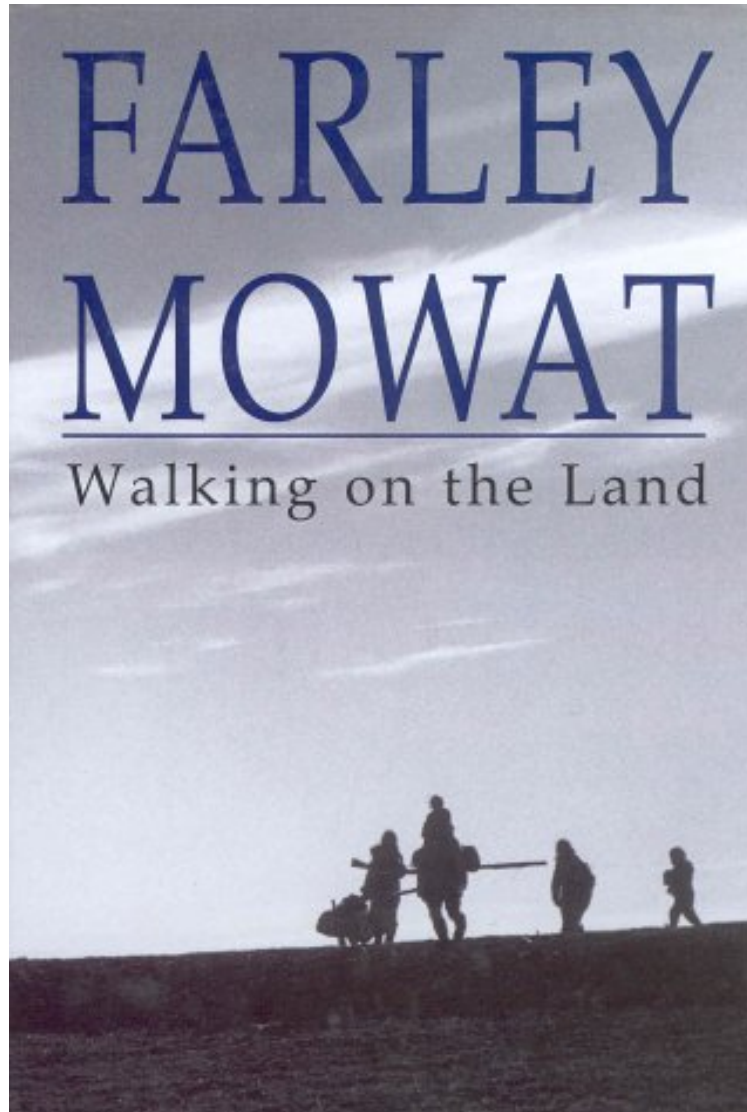


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Walking on the Land

Farley Mowat

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Farley Mowat : Walking on the Land before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking on the Land:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Never miss this author's books!By cyklerEverything Farley Mowat writes is gold! After "Never Cry Wolf", the movie, I read all of his books. Spoiler: if you needed to know how to eat a mouse, this is the book for you.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. OK bookBy JaneyPros: Very honest, very real, well-written, some interesting storiesCons: Boring to me, did not interest my 18-year-old son and would not interest junior high students (although it is 8.8 AR level) but did interest my son in his mid-20's; many swear words;

graphic descriptions of at least 2 murders (I quit half-way through the book); negative viewpoints of missionaries You may enjoy the book, but if you're considering getting it for children, keep the above in mind...0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An extraordinary story of the north expertly told by Mowat ...By Arthur AllenAn extraordinary story of the north expertly told by Mowat as usual based on a mix of personal experience and history.

No one has written as passionately or as articulately about the Arctic and its people as Farley Mowat. In *Walking on the Land*, he returns to write about the Arctic for the first time in two decades. Using a seminal trip he took through the eastern Arctic as his starting point, Mowat interweaves the stories and the fate of the Barren-ground Inuit who were his friends with stunning, lyrical description of the land that was their traditional homeland. With great beauty and terrible anguish, Mowat traces the history of the Barren-ground Inuit, revealing how the decimation of the caribou herds in the early part of the century, unleashed a series of famines and epidemics that virtually wiped out their population and left them reliant on a far-away government that understood too little of their needs and circumstances. Through his continued friendship with the survivors, Mowat brings us into the present, showing how the remnant population has survived. No Mowat work is complete without a cast of larger-than-life characters and his trademark marvellous storytelling. *Walking on the Land* is no exception. Old-time Hudson's Bay company men, eccentric priests, wild bush pilots and well-meaning interlopers people the pages, bringing to life one of Canada's most haunted places.

From Publishers Weekly
In Walking on the Land, a third chronicle of the embattled, exiled Ihalmiut people of the Arctic, Farley Mowat (*Never Cry Wolf*) aims "to help ensure that man's inhumane acts are not expunged from memory, thereby easing the way for repetitions of such horrors." After reading Mowat's *The Desperate People*, an Ihalmiut woman raised after the 1957 removal of her people from their home sought him out for further information, resulting in this account of the Ihalmiut's tragic plight. His earlier reports of Ihalmiut culture and the "unwitting genocide" waged on them by government, commerce and missionaries were received with accusations of falsity, denials that the Ihalmiut existed or dismissive silence. Mowat's typically lively, sensitive, plainspoken book traces responsible and victimized parties through devastating misunderstanding and mistreatment. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal
Canadian naturalist and Arctic specialist Mowat started his career 50 years ago with the publication of *People of the Deer*, which described the lives and customs of the Ihalmiut (Barren Ground Inuit), with whom he lived for two years, and also helped bring attention to their "unwitting genocide" by establishment institutions. Some 30 years later, Mowat wrote another influential book, *Sea of Slaughter*, which focused on environmental destruction along the northern Atlantic seaboard. Now, in this passionate account, the prolific author of 30 books revisits the controversial subject and place and learns that his past predictions of tribal decline have been fulfilled as he again witnesses disease, starvation, and violence. Known for his extraordinary storytelling, Mowat presents a multigenerational viewpoint through his accounts of Hudson Bay men, missionaries, and other Arctic people as he subtly describes the desolate landscape. Recommended for public libraries. Margaret W. Norton, Oak Park, IL Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Booklist
One of Canada's best-known writers reworks his *People of the Deer* (1952) and *The Desperate People* (1960), adding new material. Those books, which depicted the plight of an Inuit band called the Ihalmiut ("people from beyond"), displeased officials responsible for the Arctic, some of whom sarcastically referred to Mowat as "Hardly Knowit." The new book primarily covers Mowat's 1958 plane-and-canoe trip to the district then named Keewatin, which the Ihalmiut more descriptively called the Barren Lands. Something terrible had befallen the Ihalmiut the previous winter, leaving only some dozens of survivors, one of whom, Kikik, was charged with murder. Looking into the disaster involved Mowat alighting from contraptions of dubious airworthiness at outposts scattered across the vast, flat, water-coursed land. In the recounting, he straightway notes Kikik's acquittal, then subtly integrates her case into a pithily expressive travelogue. At its center is a canoe voyage to Inuit camps with Father Choque, a Catholic missionary with a "a heron-like alertness about him" and his own mystery to investigate, which concerned a devoted but undiplomatic brother cleric. The tragedy of the proselytizing Father Buliard encapsulates Mowat's contextual theme of the corruption of the Ihalmiut's hunting culture by the encroachment of white society. Yet Mowat is too perceptive to cut his story to fit the conventions of a cultural clash. Rather than using them functionally, he individuates all the characters of his story. His skillful writing, familiar to his many fans, should also engage new readers as well as anyone concerned about indigenous peoples. Gilbert Talyor Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved