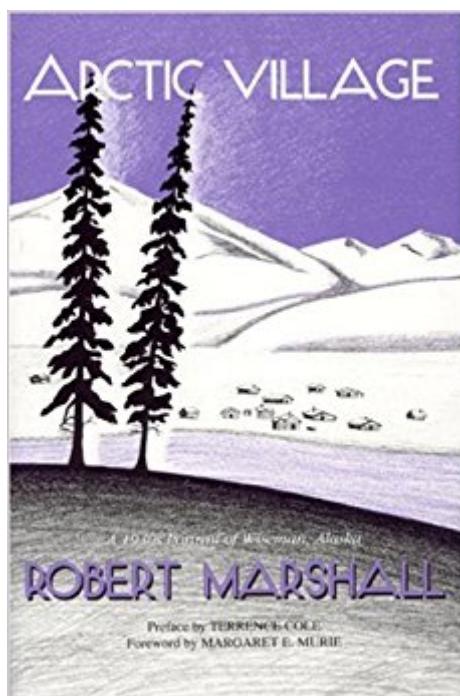


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Arctic Village: A 1930's Portrait Of Wiseman, Alaska (Classic Reprint Series)



Synopsis

This classic is an original work of literature by one of America's foremost conservationists and is an account of the people of the north, both Native and white, who give Alaska its special human flavor. First published over fifty years ago, the book is still a favorite among old-time Alaskans and, over the years, has prompted numerous readers to pack up and move to Alaska. The richness of statistical coverage in this book, and Marshall's careful descriptions of the characters he met, provide readers with a window to the world of 1930 and a nearly complete record of the Koyukuk civilization as he saw it. Readers learn what the people of Wiseman thought about sex, religion, politics, and the myriad of ways they found to cope with and enjoy life in a wilderness community.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Arctic Village, a remarkable sociological portrait of Wiseman, has long been a favorite among Alaskana fans." (Fairbanks Daily News-Miner) "An enduring classic . . . that will win new fans for the author and enthusiasts for the places he loved." (Alaska Magazine)

Robert Marshall is well remembered for his contributions to wilderness preservation. A founder of the Wilderness Society in 1935, he carried forward John Muir's battle for conservation. As with Muir, Marshall's personal appeal and persuasive arguments reached beyond his immediate circle to gain adherents to the cause. He is considered the inspiration for the creation of Alaska's eight-million-acre Gates of the Arctic National Park and the one-million-acre Bob Marshall Area in Montana. He is author of numerous influential essays and two books.

This is not the original Arctic Village by Robert Marshall...It is an "abridged" version. We have two copies of the original version here at the house and wanted to use these republished copies for gifts. Several of the chapters are shorter and several pictures of my mother, grandmother and grandfather, that were in the original book are not in this edition.

I set out to read this book in order to gain some insight into the author, Bob Marshall, who was instrumental in establishing wilderness reserves, especially the 1 million acre Bib Marshall Wilderness in Montana. The book captures one year in an idyllic, frontier village that was often faced with harsh extremes of weather & nature. The book is an encyclopedia of facts and statistics of which Marshall seems to be nearly obsessed. It is a chronicle of the villagers, mother habits, their intimate lives and the fact that this mixed race community experienced very little crime, discrimination, and wealth was shared.

This story is fascinating. I bought this book after going to Coldfoot and Wiseman in Alaska and meeting the author of the book. He is a very fascinating man and I would highly recommend reading his story. If you have any interest in Alaska/subsistence/settlement you should give this a read.

This book is essential reading for anyone contemplating a trip to the Arctic Circle, preferably by means of the Dalton Highway north of Fairbanks, AK. The town of Wiseman is very near the "new" highway, and not hundreds of miles from the nearest auto-accessed town. The book is a detailed sociological description of white and Eskimo life in an isolated community, and very readable because it is not written by a sociologist or academic. The author was a well-educated forester and conservationist who lived among these people for a year, and had prepared for his experience by studying and befriending Margaret Mead and others.

This is an amazingly detailed a quantitative sociological study of a remote Alaskan village in the Arctic. I enjoyed it immensely probably partly because I have had a somewhat similar, but much more limited, experience staying in a northern Canadian village for a few days, and I could relate to the kinds of people and their interactions that Robert Marshall describes.

This book was a true classic. It showed what it was like to live in the wilds of Alaska. It related how people watched out for each other and bonded together and how they accepted each other as they

were. It was a story about real life, hardships and happiness. A melding of different cultures and races, I liked the simplicity and earthiness of this book. We appreciated the prompt service of . Com and the excellent condition of this classic book. Thank you, Shirley Johnsrud

Amazing dude with fascinating accounts of how Natives are certainly satisfied with their lives, and their kids do better on traditional school testing than lower 48 kids because of necessity to learn for survival--plus no distraction of BS computer games, etc.

Solid, substantial writing. Accurate and sometimes a bit tedious this arctic town comes alive with personality and purpose. Marshall gets all of the details down as life in Wiseman is nailed. From the hardships to the pristine beauty, even the smallest of detail become an integral part of the over-all picture.

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