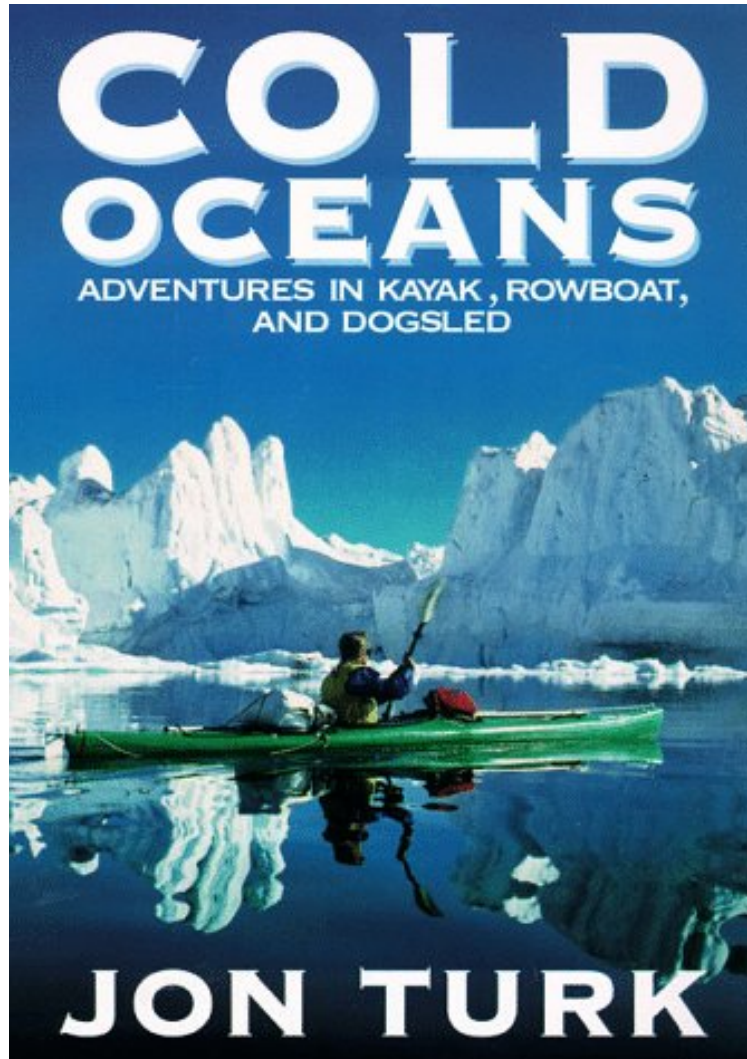


[Download] Cold Oceans: Adventures in Kayak, Rowboat, and Dogsled

Cold Oceans: Adventures in Kayak, Rowboat, and Dogsled

Jonathan Turk

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Jonathan Turk : Cold Oceans: Adventures in Kayak, Rowboat, and Dogsled before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cold Oceans: Adventures in Kayak, Rowboat, and Dogsled:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. thrilling! chilling literally! spine-tingling!By bill fischer/dancing bearthrilling!chilling literally!spine-tingling!and well-written besides1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. RIVETING!By T. MartinIf you are into mountaineering, whitewater, adventure, etc, this is the book for you! Jon is a wonderfully well written explorer, and this book will be hard for you to put down! It will leave you pining for more of Jon's books!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's a good thing other people saved himBy Mar PrestonI liked this book although I must admit I didn't like the presentation of self Turk portrays in the book. It's unusual to

read an adventure book in which the adventurer doesn't make his goal -- over and over again. It's a good thing other people saved him. And Chris is a saint. The writing is good, the book worthwhile.

I remembered only the pleasures of adventure and the considerable gains which my travels earned me, and once again longed to sail new seas and explore new land. --Tales From the Thousand and One Nights, author unknown, translated by N. J. Dawood

An evocative and mesmerizing page-turner, *Cold Oceans* is the thrilling story of Jon Turk's expeditions to some of the most inhospitable regions on earth. Even after being shipwrecked off Cape Horn, stopped by ice in the Northwest Passage, and beaten back by Arctic blizzards, Turk has continued to follow an irresistible urge to explore. Guided by his restless spirit and fueled by tales of Elizabethan explorers, Turk first heads off alone to kayak around Cape Horn. But while he is paddling through the rain and mists, a racing storm scuttles his plans. On his next trip, he and his partner, Chris Seashore, attempt to row the Northwest Passage in a single season, but find themselves more often dragging than rowing their skiff through the half-frozen, gelatinous sea. Two years later, he attempts to run a dog team up the east coast of Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic, making his final camp beneath a wind-varnished iceberg locked into a frozen sea. On his last expedition, he's again joined by Chris (by now his wife) as they paddle sea kayaks along an ancient Inuit migration route from Ellesmere Island to Greenland. Following in the footsteps of old ways, and listening to the land, its people, journey. Woven throughout the book is Jon and Chris's deepening relationship, and his reflections on the legendary explorers and adventurers who preceded him (Magellan, Frobisher, Amundsen, and others) and the aboriginal people who survived in these harsh lands. Turk writes with grace, humor, and assured knowledge of the Arctic landscape, capturing its beauty, power, vastness, and loneliness. His story is one of love, self-discovery, and his exuberant passion for wild places.

.com From its opening passages, Jon Turk's *Cold Oceans* chronicles explorations in both exterior and interior landscapes. In honest, accessible prose, Turk retraces more than two decades of his varied and stirring adventures-- attempting to round Cape Horn solo in a kayak, rowing the Northwest Passage, dogsledding the east coast of Baffin Island, and kayaking from Ellesmere Island to Greenland. As Turk plunges headlong through icy seas, repeated and assorted blunders, and bouts of personal lows, he transcends mere adventure storytelling to explore a changing notion of himself, deepening relationships, and the nature of failure and true success. These passages contain some of *Cold Oceans*'s greatest riches. With a host of explorers along as inspirational and literary companions, Turk evokes a landscape of life and history intertwined. After a daring 15-hour crossing to Greenland, Turk wrestles with polar explorer Robert Peary's notion of success, defined by fame and fortune, concluding, "What mattered was that he [Peary] communicated his passion to the world." And this is the success that Turk has achieved in *Cold Oceans*. Although the saga of choosing a life of adventure to stave off a more rooted and standard existence may seem a common tale, it is Turk's contemplation of this lifestyle choice that offers some of the book's finest insights. Ultimately, Turk's wanderings reveal how a thirst for adventure can at once drive, fragment, and unify a life. This incongruity is perhaps one of a traveler's greatest ponderings, and *Cold Oceans* confronts it boldly, piercing the heart of what it means to adventure. --Byron Ricks

From Publishers Weekly

Some of the most forbidding areas of the planet, from the Antarctic seas to Canada's Baffin Island, form the backdrop to this lumbering, highly personal memoir of dangerous treks and voyages across inhospitable terrain and water. Despite little experience and, it would seem, not a lot of common sense, Turk, a chemist and adventurer who works on promotion and product development for the outdoor apparel company the North Face, consistently embarks on grand journeys in "some of the coldest, wettest, most remote regions of the world," then bites off more than he can chew. Ill-planned efforts to kayak around Cape Horn and dogsled across Baffin fall short of their goals. There are poignant moments along the way? Turk's account of a sled dog's death and images of snowmobile-riding Inuits who reverentially refer to "the old days" are memorable. But Turk's belief that he can tackle any endeavor without training or wisdom extends at times to his writing. His many wilderness descriptions and epiphanies sometimes lead to prose as rough-hewn?and nearly as compelling?as the landscape itself: "When you climb a mountain, the way back is always downhill." Though readers will likely find tough sledding even when on familiar territory, most will find it hard to be too put off by an adventurer who lost an opportunity to paddle through the Northwest Passage because, in planning, "I had ignored distance, ice, and wind." Five maps. (Sept.) FYI: The North Face is sponsoring Turk's six-city book tour in September. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Turk, an adventurer with a Ph.D. in chemistry, chronicles four separate expeditions over a ten-year period. Twice divorced and unhappy as a professor, he embarks on a stormy solo voyage paddling a 17' folding kayak south from Chile through the straits of Magellan to Tierra del Fuego to where, just 50 miles short of Cape Horn, he shipwrecks and is forced to abandon the journey. Undaunted, he takes his third wife along on a perilous icy northwest passage in a 16' wherry and later dogsleds Baffin Island, relying on the help of the Inuit for survival. A gifted writer and storyteller, Turk deftly folds bits of history and science into his narrative. This very engaging book, with its respectful, intimate glimpse of Inuit culture, is sure to be much read in public libraries. ?John Kenny, San Francisco P.L. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.