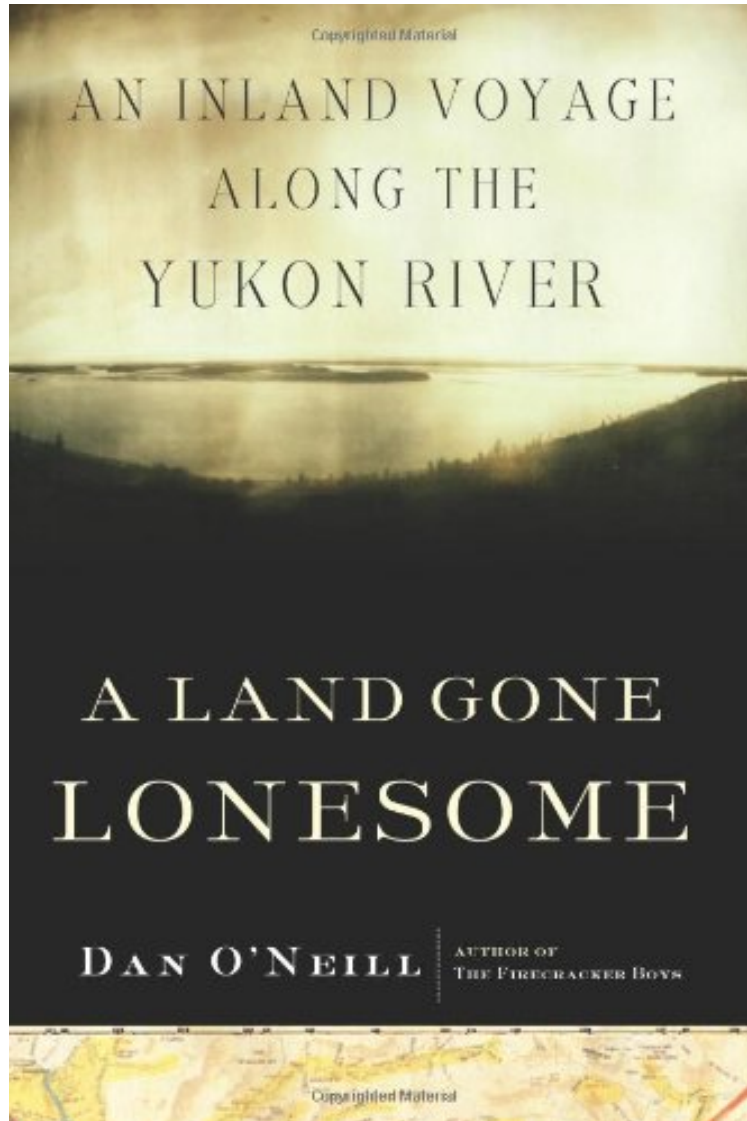


(Get free) A Land Gone Lonesome: An Inland Voyage along the Yukon River

A Land Gone Lonesome: An Inland Voyage along the Yukon River

Dan O'Neill

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Dan O'Neill : A Land Gone Lonesome: An Inland Voyage along the Yukon River before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Land Gone Lonesome: An Inland Voyage along the Yukon River:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Then NowBy Eric T. BergesonThis book gave me a good view of bureaucracy at work. It's a before and after view of the rivers feeding the Yukon and the people living in a subsistence way of life. Gradually, as the government moved in and moved the subsistence folks out and now no one lives out there. A way of life destroyed. The river was full of life, but now with no one living out there, it's go e lonsome.1 of 1

people found the following review helpful. A follow up to McPhee's "Coming Into The Country" By JB "A LAND GONE LONESOME" describes what happened in the years after "COMING INTO THE COUNTRY" depicted the alteration of life styles of "bush-dwellers, hermits, miners, trappers, and visitors to the region by the lawyers, politicians, and bureaucrats divvying up Alaska to make way for the pipeline from the North Slope. Shortly before McPhee's book, I kayaked through this region three times on my finally journey of 2,000 miles down the river to the ocean, so these books were of interest and informative to me as I knew some of the people affected by the new rulings of government power. These books depict a lot about how those in political power use and abuse those powers to force their personal ideas and philosophies on others trying to escaped the clutches of such webs of governmental control.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent read!By Michael C.Ahh, the unintended consequences of self perpetuating bureaucracy. Alaska is different. Her parks and protected areas should be as well. Great narrative, incredible characters, and a harrowing bear attack. Sad that my generation will be the last to witness people of this mettle- who are able to engage in a true subsistence lifestyle that requires the tenacity and character described in these pages.

In his square-sterned canoe, Alaskan author Dan O'Neill set off down the majestic Yukon River, beginning at Dawson, Yukon Territory, site of the Klondike gold rush. The journey he makes to Circle City, Alaska, is more than a voyage into northern wilderness, it is an expedition into the history of the river and a record of the inimitable inhabitants of the region, historic and contemporary. A literary kin of John Muir's Travels in Alaska and John McPhee's Coming into the Country, A Land Gone Lonesome is the book on Alaska for the new century. Though he treks through a beautiful and hostile wilderness, the heart of O'Neill's story is his exploration of the lives of a few tough souls clinging to the old ways-even as government policies are extinguishing their way of life. More than just colorful anachronisms, these wilderness dwellers-both men and women-are a living archive of North American pioneer values. As O'Neill encounters these natives, he finds himself drawn into the bare-knuckle melodrama of frontier life-and further back still into the very origins of the Yukon river world. With the rare perspective of an insider, O'Neill here gives us an intelligent, lyrical-and ultimately, probably the last-portrait of the river people along the upper Yukon.

From Publishers WeeklyOutdoorsman O'Neill (The Last Giant of Beringia) steers his canoe through the history and topography of the Yukon River, which runs through Canada and Alaska, letting its course carry his witty travelogue. Drawing from legend, interview and observation, he evokes the river's rustic majesty and the spartan dignity of its vestigial towns, briefly fed by the frenzied Gold Rush of the 1890s. His engaging account of the river's history punctuates its backwater charm, pulling readers into a realm of frigid wilderness and frontier stakeouts. He captures the hardiness of its scattered dwellers in vignettes of outmoded customs and bawdy tourist traditions, including the tale of someone chugging an amputated-toe cocktail in the Canadian town of Dawson. Exploring the conflict between nature and society, O'Neill writes of legendary holdouts (such as crusty Dick Cook, who he acknowledges was also a subject of John McPhee) who chafe at federal mandates that threaten their hardscrabble homesteads. O'Neill's meditations on the river branch into epic themes of self-reliance, heroism and humanity. Poetic renderings of creeks, camps and log cabin settlements bestow a refined gloss on rough terrain, reviving the moribund spirit of the "ghost river connecting ghost towns." (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistO'Neill, who lives in a log cabin in Fairbanks, Alaska, chronicles his journey along the Yukon River in a canoe and his forays into the wildness into which the river takes him. His exciting trip begins in Dawson, Yukon Territory, and ends in Circle City, Alaska. O'Neill gives readers a brief history of the land and then proceeds to describe the beauty of the woods, water, birds, bears, and bluffs. O'Neill is charmed by the characters he meets along the way, including Randy Brown, who lived in a six-by-nine-foot cabin before marrying a schoolteacher, and Charlie Kidd, who walked 120 miles in snowshoes over the Woodchopper Trail once a year rather than make the trip by boat or dog teams. Then there's Dick Cook, who "looked like a marooned pirate in Birkenstocks, a castaway scavenger of random goods." O'Neill's love of the land shines through on every page. George CohenCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "The reportage is cool and bright as the flowing waters of the Yukon. Another writerly gold strike in the Klondike." "O'Neill is a talented historian.... His witty travelogue includes epic themes of self-reliance, heroism and humanity." "A colorful and meandering portrait.... O'Neill casts a mold of the Yukon landscape before nature takes back the last human footprint."