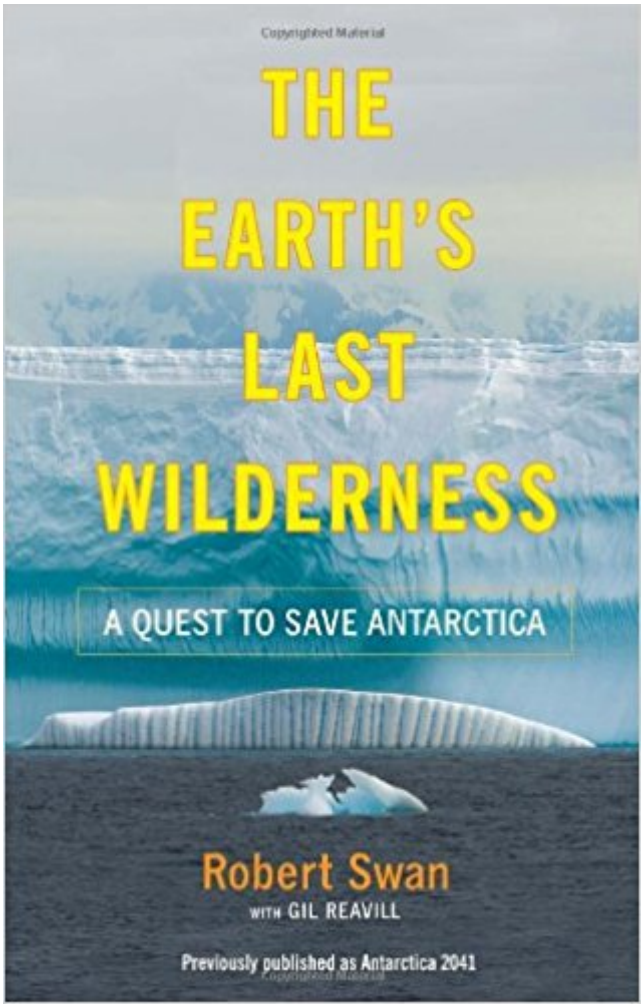
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The Earth's Last Wilderness: A Quest To Save Antarctica



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Synopsis

Adventurer turned environmentalist Robert Swan illuminates the perils facing the planet come 2041Ã¢â ¬â •the year when the international treaty protecting Antarctica is up for reviewÃ¢â ¬â •and the many steps that can be taken to avoid environmental calamity.In 1985, when Robert Swan walked across Antarctica, the fragile polar environment was not high in his mind. But upon his return, the earthÃ¢â ¬â„¢s perilous state became personal: RobertÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ice-blue eyes were singed a pale gray, a result of being exposed to the sunÃ¢â ¬â„¢s rays passing unfiltered through the depleted ozone layer. At this moment, his commitment to preserving the environment was born, and in Antarctica 2041 Swan details his journey to awareness, and his firm belief that humans can reverse the harm done to the planet thus far, and secure its future for generations to come.Despite the dire warnings Swan raises in Antarctica 2041Ã¢â ¬â •exponentially high greenhouse-gas levels; rising seas; massive species extinctionÃ¢â ¬â •he says there is much we can do to avert looming disaster. Ultimately an upbeat call to action, his book provides the information people need to understand the worldÃ¢â ¬â„¢s crisis, and the tools they need to combat it, ultimately showing us all that saving Antarctica amounts to saving ourselves.From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

British explorer and conservationist Swan accounts for the inspiration, execution and purpose of his expeditions to visit the South and North Poles. In 1967, at the age of 11, Swan saw the 1948 film Scott of the Antarctic, and became obsessed with the doomed expedition of its iconic hero, Captain

Robert F. Scott. Naming his 1985 expedition "In the Footsteps of Scott," Swan successfully retraced the captain’s 900 mile trek to the South Pole. In a subsequent hike to the North Pole (another 500 mile trip), Swan became the first person to have walked to both poles. He recounts big adventures, and setbacks almost as big (his first ship was crushed by polar ice, leaving him with a $1.2 million debt), on his journey to becoming a committed conservationist, dedicated to curbing climate change and preventing the exploitation of the Arctic and Antarctic (2041 is the year that the international treaty protecting Antarctica comes up for review). Though he describes his Antarctic expedition as a "ridiculous undertaking-a twenty-something nobody raising five million dollars to embark on a useless quest," Swan’s valuable lessons and thrilling narrative make it clear his efforts were far from fruitless. Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

ROBERT SWAN is the first person to have walked to both the North and South Poles. An active lecturer, he regularly leads Antarctic expeditions. He divides time between London, New York, and Antarctica. GIL REAVILL has coauthored many books including Tiki by Tiki Barber and Steve and Me by Terri Irwin.From the Hardcover edition.

In an age where the media showers us with stories of ill-behaved politicians, athletes, and entertainers, it’s refreshing to be able to read about someone who truly qualifies as a role model for people young and old. Robert Swan is a real modern-day hero. I found this book to be a fascinating account of his accomplishments and his vision for how each of us can contribute to shaping a better world for the future. It presents Robert’s story, so far, but "biography" is too restrictive a word for a man who lets us know he’s planning so much more. Swan is a man of integrity who follows-through with what he takes on. The book provides insight into his approach to leadership and furnishes wisdom as well as practical advice. There is no arrogance here as Swan documents what he considers to be his failures as well as his accomplishments. His book leaves us with a call to action. Through his power to demonstrate what one determined individual can do, and by his ability to inspire others, Robert Swan makes it clear that this book is not just a great story. It is yet another vehicle for him to continue his work to shape a better future. The book ends with a beginning, a beginning for those of us who will do our part to protect Antarctica and ultimately the rest of our planet for our future generations.

A great adventure. As Sir Robert Swan sees for himself the effects of climate change and expands

his goals from walking across Antarctica to saving this pristine wilderness--and the entire planet.

A personal and frank story of Robert Swan on his quest from exploring Antarctica to saving Antarctica as the world's last wilderness. Definitely a good read.

Great book my kid love it. He got to meet Robert Swan and get his book signed. A must read for those who truly care about their environment

2041 is something we should all be aware of! Robert Swan is leading the way to save Antarctica!

This book is about a guy to walks to both the North and South Poles. He returns to Antartica and has found that in the interim global warming and human contamination are wreaking havoc on the environment. He wants to do something to stop that. He wants us all to be green in our energy use and clean up after ourselves generally to preserve what we have for future generations.That in itself is an okay reason to read the book. His arguments are fairly convincing if not compelling.The interesting part of this book is what you can learn from him. He decided what he wanted to do, which was to hike to the South Pole. Then he proceeded to do what it took, surrounded himself with doers and managed to make it happen. He did the same with the North Pole trek and several other projects. It is fascinating to me to read about a guy who could accomplish so much just by never giving up the idea that it could be done.

I'm always a little scared when reviewing books that have political overtones because it always seems to provoke some sort of visceral reaction from people who are more into pushing their ideology instead of focusing on the book. Sometimes, it's important to read a book and learn from it, even when you don't agree with it.I'm not sure that I entirely agree with some of Robert Swan's political ideas regarding greenhouse gases and global warming. That being said, that doesn't mean that I didn't enjoy reading his book about his treks to Antarctica.The first half of the book which focused on the challenge of financing and launching a trek to the bottom of the globe was quite fascinating. As an American, I don't have the historical background of the legend and life of English explorer Captain Scott, so I found this part of the book incredibly interesting. I was also captivated of his descriptions of the challenges he faced in raising the money and then of the physical challenges of the actual voyages. The level of detail and interest at the beginning of the book wasn't quite matched by the end and the various conclusions, but it should keep your interest.Of course, this

book is more than just a travelogue and it eventually addresses the issues of greenhouse gases and global warming. I’m not a Neanderthal conservative who denies there’s a problem; however I have major misgivings about some of the "solutions" that are often suggested to address the problem. Strangely enough - (and I was relieved),Swan manages to make his points well without becoming overly preachy and I think he succeeds in raising the issue and encouraging readers to consider the issue.Overall a solid book in terms of being an autobiography - less so in terms of it addressing major issues. No matter what your position on the topic of global warming, there’s something in here to like for just about everyone.

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