

## **Two Old Women An Alaska Legend Of Betrayal Courage And Survival By Velma Wallis Summary Study Guide**

A gorgeous collector's edition of the critically acclaimed debut novel by John Green, #1 bestselling author of *Turtles All the Way Down* and *The Fault in Our Stars* A perfect gift for every fan, this deluxe hardcover features a stunning special edition jacket and 50 pages of all-new exclusive content, including: - An introduction by John Green - Extensive Q&A: John Green answers readers' most frequently asked questions - Deleted scenes from the original manuscript ? Winner of the Michael L. Printz Award ? A Los Angeles Times Book Prize Finalist ? A New York Times Bestseller • A USA Today Bestseller ? NPR's Top Ten Best-Ever Teen Novels ? TIME magazine's 100 Best Young Adult Novels of All Time ? A PBS Great American Read Selection NOW A HULU ORIGINAL SERIES!

Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words—and tired of his safe life at home. He leaves for boarding school to seek what the dying poet Francois Rabelais called the "Great Perhaps." Much awaits Miles at Culver Creek, including Alaska Young, who will pull Miles into her labyrinth and catapult him into the Great

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Perhaps. Looking for Alaska brilliantly chronicles the indelible impact one life can have on another. A modern classic, this stunning debut marked #1 bestselling author John Green's arrival as a groundbreaking new voice in contemporary fiction.

A chilling true story about a pregnant mother with two children who must battle cold, starvation and exhaustion. Ultimately it's a story of survival and triumph amid unspeakable sorrow.

This saga chronicles the lives and fortunes of four generations of women in the York family, from the Russian occupation of Alaska to the building of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. Detailing the triumphs and trials of what became a dynasty of fish and timber barons during a crucial century in Alaska's history, the novel opens with teenage Nadia Karimoff, a half-Russian, half-Native American orphan living in Sitka, being kidnapped and sold to a mysterious Yankee named Noah York.

An atmospheric, transporting tale of adventure, love, and survival from the bestselling author of *The Snow Child*, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. In the winter of 1885, decorated war hero Colonel Allen Forrester leads a small band of men on an expedition that has been deemed impossible: to venture up the Wolverine River and pierce the vast, untamed Alaska Territory. Leaving behind Sophie, his

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newly pregnant wife, Colonel Forrester records his extraordinary experiences in hopes that his journal will reach her if he doesn't return--once he passes beyond the edge of the known world, there's no telling what awaits him. The Wolverine River Valley is not only breathtaking and forbidding but also terrifying in ways that the colonel and his men never could have imagined. As they map the territory and gather information on the native tribes, whose understanding of the natural world is unlike anything they have ever encountered, Forrester and his men discover the blurred lines between human and wild animal, the living and the dead. And while the men knew they would face starvation and danger, they cannot escape the sense that some greater, mysterious force threatens their lives. Meanwhile, on her own at Vancouver Barracks, Sophie chafes under the social restrictions and yearns to travel alongside her husband. She does not know that the winter will require as much of her as it does her husband, that both her courage and faith will be tested to the breaking point. Can her exploration of nature through the new art of photography help her to rediscover her sense of beauty and wonder? The truths that Allen and Sophie discover over the course of that fateful year change both of their lives--and the lives of those who hear their stories long after they're gone--forever. "An epic adventure story that seems heir to the tradition of Melville's own sweeping and ambitious literary approach to the

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age-old struggle of humans versus nature . . . An absorbing and high-stakes read." -- Kathleen Rooney, Chicago Tribune An Amazon Best Book of the Year A Washington Post Notable Book A Goodreads Choice Award Nominee A Library Journal Top 10 Book of the Year A BookPage Best Book of the Year Describes a girl's coming of age with her twelve siblings in a two-room cabin in Fort Yukon, Alaska, fending for themselves after their father dies and their mother descends into depression and alcoholism.

"Deeply moving, superbly crafted, and highly unconventional." —Washington Times Raven Stole the Moon is the stunning first novel from Garth Stein, author of the phenomenal New York Times bestseller The Art of Racing in the Rain. A profoundly poignant and unforgettable story of a grieving mother's return to a remote Alaskan town to make peace with the loss of her young son, Raven Stole the Moon combines intense emotion with Native American mysticism and a timeless and terrifying mystery, and earned raves for a young writer and his uniquely captivating imagination. According to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, this remarkable novel "serves notice that Stein is a rare talent."

Hudson recounts his arrival in Alaska's windswept Aleutian Islands, his explorations of the islands' past and present, and his deepening relationship with a village and its people.

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Based on an Athabascan Indian legend passed along for many generations from mothers to daughters of the upper Yukon River Valley in Alaska, this is the suspenseful, shocking, ultimately inspirational tale of two old women abandoned by their tribe during a brutal winter famine. Though these women have been known to complain more than contribute, they now must either survive on their own or die trying. In simple but vivid detail, Velma Wallis depicts a landscape and way of life that are at once merciless and starkly beautiful. In her old women, she has created two heroines of steely determination whose story of betrayal, friendship, community and forgiveness "speaks straight to the heart with clarity, sweetness and wisdom" (Ursula K. Le Guin).

There is not enough food for a group of Athabascan Native Americans to survive the harsh Alaska winter, and the chief must decide to leave two old women behind. Can the women survive alone, or will they die before the winter is over?

Morgan offers an authentic and deliciously humorous account of the prostitutes and other "disreputable" women who were the earliest female pioneers of the Far North. "Two Old Women: An Alaska Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival addresses problems of aging, care for the elderly, survival in nature, ingenuity, commitment to relatives and community, the strength of interdependence, the age-old conflict between the rights of the individual and the common good, conflict and cooperation, and most important, the power of reconciliation to heal individuals and communities. The book and unit meet all of the Essential Understandings Regarding Montana Indians. This unit

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provides an extensive bibliography of reliable resources for teachers, utilizing primary sources and documents whenever possible. These resources provide opportunities for students to go beyond the anchor text to build their understanding of Athabascan/Gwich'in history and culture, to better understand the histories and culture(s) of Montana Indians, to make literary connections between a variety of texts, to develop their own skills in reading and writing, to practice discussion and collaboration, and to help them better understand themselves and others while appreciating our common humanity" (page 3)

With the publication of *Two Old Women*, Velma Wallis firmly established herself as one of the most important voices in Native American writing. A national bestseller, her empowering fable won the Western State Book Award in 1993 and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book Award in 1994. Translated into 16 languages, it went on to international success, quickly reaching bestseller status in Germany. To date, more than 350,000 copies have been sold worldwide. *Bird Girl and the Man Who Followed the Sun* follows in this bestselling tradition. Rooted in the ancient legends of Alaska's Athabascan Indians, it tells the stories of two adventurers who decide to leave the safety of their respective tribes. *Bird Girl* is a headstrong young woman who learned early on the skills of a hunter. When told that she must end her forays and take up the traditional role of wife and mother, she defies her family's expectations and confidently takes off to brave life on her own. *Daagoo* is a dreamer, curious about the world

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beyond. Longing to know what happens to the sun in winter, he sets out on a quest to find the legendary "Land of the Sun." Their stories interweave and intersect as they each face the many dangers and challenges of life alone in the wilderness. In the end, both learn that the search for individualism often comes at a high price, but that it is a price well worth paying, for through this quest comes the beginning of true wisdom. For use in schools and libraries only. Akiak the sled dog refuses to give up after being injured during the Iditarod sled dog race.

On a moonlit winter night, a team of dogs pulls a sled, taking the narrator and readers on a wondrous ride through the snow, into and out of the woods. It is a ride you'll wish would never end. Through this exquisite prose poem, Gary Paulsen shares the joy, the beauty, and the grandeur of the outdoors. With his joyous text and Ruth Wright Paulsen's exuberant and expressive illustrations, Dogteam is a celebration of nature, a dance that invites everyone to join in.

Tells the true story of generations of an Alaskan family, their customs, struggles to survive, myths and taboos.

In the spring, the bear returns to the forest, the glacier returns to its source, and the salmon returns to the fresh water where it was spawned. Drawing on the special relationship that the Native people of southeastern Alaska have always had with nature, Blonde Indian is a story about returning. Told in eloquent layers that blend Native stories and metaphor with social and spiritual journeys, this

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enchancing memoir traces the author's life from her difficult childhood growing up in the Tlingit community, through her adulthood, during which she lived for some time in Seattle and San Francisco, and eventually to her return home. Neither fully Native American nor Euro-American, Hayes encounters a unique sense of alienation from both her Native community and the dominant culture. We witness her struggles alongside other Tlingit men and women—many of whom never left their Native community but wrestle with their own challenges, including unemployment, prejudice, alcoholism, and poverty. The author's personal journey, the symbolic stories of contemporary Natives, and the tales and legends that have circulated among the Tlingit people for centuries are all woven together, making *Blonde Indian* much more than the story of one woman's life. Filled with anecdotes, descriptions, and histories that are unique to the Tlingit community, this book is a document of cultural heritage, a tribute to the Alaskan landscape, and a moving testament to how going back—in nature and in life—allows movement forward.

Eskimo and white culture collide in this national bestselling novel of life in the contemporary Alaskan wilderness: "A magnificently realized story" (New York Times Book Review). *Ordinary Wolves* depicts a life different from what any of us has known: Inhuman cold, the taste of rancid salmon shared with shivering sled

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dogs, hunkering in a sod igloo while blizzards moan overhead. But this is the only world Cutuk Hawcley has ever known. Born and raised in the Arctic, he has learned to provide for himself by hunting, fishing, and trading. And yet, though he idolizes the indigenous hunters who have taught him how to survive, when he travels to the nearby Inupiaq village, he is jeered and pummeled by the native children for being white. When Cutuk ventures into the society of his own people, two incompatible realities collide, perfectly capturing "the contrast between the wild world and our ravaging consumer culture". In a powerful coming of age story, a young man isolated by his past must choose between two worlds, both seemingly bent on rejecting him (Louise Erdrich). Winner of the Milkweed National Fiction Prize "As a revelation of the devastation modern America brings to a natural lifestyle, it's a tour de force and may be the best treatment of the Northwest and its people since Jack London's works."—Publishers Weekly, starred review

In this sweeping epic of the northernmost American frontier, James A. Michener guides us through Alaska's fierce terrain and history, from the long-forgotten past to the bustling present. As his characters struggle for survival, Michener weaves together the exciting high points of Alaska's story: its brutal origins; the American acquisition; the gold rush; the tremendous growth and exploitation of

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the salmon industry; the arduous construction of the Alcan Highway, undertaken to defend the territory during World War II. A spellbinding portrait of a human community fighting to establish its place in the world, Alaska traces a bold and majestic saga of the enduring spirit of a land and its people. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from James A. Michener's Hawaii. Praise for Alaska “Few will escape the allure of the land and people [Michener] describes. . . . Alaska takes the reader on a journey through one of the bleakest, richest, most foreboding, and highly inviting territories in our Republic, if not the world. . . . The characters that Michener creates are bigger than life.”—Los Angeles Times Book Review “Always the master of exhaustive historical research, Michener tracks the settling of Alaska [in] vividly detailed scenes and well-developed characters.”—Boston Herald “Michener is still, sentence for sentence, writing’s fastest attention grabber.”—The New York Times

Nunavut tigummiun! Hold on to the land! It was just fifty years ago that the territory of Alaska officially became the state of Alaska. But no matter who has staked their claim to the land, it has always had a way of enveloping souls in its vast, icy embrace. For William L. Iggiagruk Hensley, Alaska has been his home, his identity, and his cause. Born on the shores of Kotzebue Sound, twenty-nine miles north of the Arctic Circle, he was raised to live the traditional, seminomadic

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life that his Iñupiaq ancestors had lived for thousands of years. It was a life of cold and of constant effort, but Hensley's people also reaped the bounty that nature provided. In *Fifty Miles from Tomorrow*, Hensley offers us the rare chance to immerse ourselves in a firsthand account of growing up Native Alaskan. There have been books written about Alaska, but they've been written by Outsiders, settlers. Hensley's memoir of life on the tundra offers an entirely new perspective, and his stories are captivating, as is his account of his devotion to the Alaska Native land claims movement. As a young man, Hensley was sent by missionaries to the Lower Forty-eight so he could pursue an education. While studying there, he discovered that the land Native Alaskans had occupied and, to all intents and purposes, owned for millennia was being snatched away from them. Hensley decided to fight back. In 1971, after years of Hensley's tireless lobbying, the United States government set aside 44 million acres and nearly \$1 billion for use by Alaska's native peoples. Unlike their relatives to the south, the Alaskan peoples would be able to take charge of their economic and political destiny. The landmark decision did not come overnight and was certainly not the making of any one person. But it was Hensley who gave voice to the cause and made it real. *Fifty Miles from Tomorrow* is not only the memoir of one man; it is also a fascinating testament to the resilience of the Alaskan Iñupiat, the Alaskan

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spirit.

A pair of siblings escapes—along with a Siberian Husky—the strictures of their 1950s industrial Ohio town on the adventure of a lifetime. Talented high-school senior Donna Lane yearns to leave her Midwestern home in pursuit of a career in design, but she feels obligated to stay and care for her helpless father and her younger brother, Will. In fragile health and obsessed with the television show Sergeant Striker and the Alaskan Wild, Will's dearest companion is a mute Siberian Husky named Trusty. The arrival of two outsiders inspires Donna to consider her dreams anew. Then Will falls sick, and Donna packs up their yellow convertible—with Will, Trusty, and a road atlas—and sets off for the Alaskan Territory. A portrait of a singular American moment, *My One Square Inch of Alaska* is a moving tale of exploration and love—human and canine—that dares to believe the impossible.

John Morgan and his wife can barely contain their excitement upon arriving as new teachers in a Yupik Inuit village on the windswept Alaskan tundra. Lured north in search of adventure, the idealistic couple hope to immerse themselves in the ancient Arctic culture. Their move proves disastrous when a deadly epidemic strikes and the isolated community descends into total chaos. When outside help fails to arrive, John's only hope lies in escaping the snowcovered tundra and the

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hunger of the other survivors. His thousand-mile trek across the Alaskan wilderness grows more improbable when he encounters a blind Inuit girl and an elderly woman. The two need his protection from those who would harm them, and he needs their knowledge of the terrain and their companionship to survive. The harsh journey and constant danger push him beyond his limits as he discovers a new sense of hope and the possibility of loving again. "If you're not scared, be scared: Don Rearden's *The Raven's Gift* will propel you pell-mell into a terrifying future of plague on the Alaskan tundra—all too real if you've talked with elders who survived 1917—all too frightening if you have sense to know this future can start five minutes from now." —Seth Kantner author of *Ordinary Wolves* "The Raven's Gift has a winning plot, characters we've never met before, and intriguing details of a world most of us will never venture to -- creating a read that opens our eyes and finds the fault lines of a heart in one breathless sitting." —Jodi Picoult, *New York Times* Bestselling Author "Rearden's fresh, new voice is a kaleidoscope of cultural collision and the astonishing landscape of the heart." —Ron Spatz, Editor. *Alaska Quarterly Review* "A many layered Alaskan intrigue which is gritty and engaging and an absolutely good read . . . all in a world, that Alaskan world -- which I could believe." —Ron Carlson, author *The Speed of Light*, *Five Skies*, *News of the World* "Don Rearden's writing is captivating and

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new. This is a writer who has many books in him. I predict he will be widely read, well respected, and greatly admired." — Jo-Ann Mapson, author of bestselling novels *Bad Girl Creek*, *The Wilder Sisters*, and *Hank & Chloe*, author of bestselling novels *Bad Girl Creek*, *The Wilder Sisters*, and *Hank & Chloe* "Take a remote Alaskan village, add a dedicated teacher, toss in a plague. *The Raven's Gift* is a page turner with a message: We Alaskans are lost if we cannot find our own way." — Bill Streever, author of *Cold: Adventures in the World's Frozen Places* "In *The Raven's Gift*, Don Rearden has created a kind of allegory for a people and place at risk, a generous and honest portrait of Yup'ik communities. His Alaska is one you won't yet have seen." — David Vann, author of bestselling novels *Legend of a Suicide* and *A Mile Down*.

Presents an account of the World War II invasion of Alaska by the Japanese and is told from the viewpoints of American civilians who were captured on the Aleutian Islands.

A captivating, often hilarious novel of family, loss, wilderness, and the curse of a violent America, Dave Eggers's *Heroes of the Frontier* is a powerful examination of our contemporary life and a rousing story of adventure. Josie and her children's father have split up, she's been sued by a former patient and lost her dental practice, and she's grieving the death of a young man senselessly killed. When her ex asks to take the children to meet his new fiancée's family, Josie makes a run for it, figuring Alaska is about as far as she can get without a passport. Josie and her kids, Paul and Ana, rent a rattling old RV named the Chateau, and at

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first their trip feels like a vacation: They see bears and bison, they eat hot dogs cooked on a bonfire, and they spend nights parked along icy cold rivers in dark forests. But as they drive, pushed north by the ubiquitous wildfires, Josie is chased by enemies both real and imagined, past mistakes pursuing her tiny family, even to the very edge of civilization. A tremendous new novel from the bestselling author of *The Circle*, *Heroes of the Frontier* is the darkly comic story of a mother and her two young children on a journey through an Alaskan wilderness plagued by wildfires and a uniquely American madness.

Based on an Athabascan Indian legend passed along for many generations from mothers to daughters of the upper Yukon River Valley in Alaska, this is the suspenseful, shocking, ultimately inspirational tale of two old women abandoned by their tribe during a brutal winter famine. Though these women have been known to complain more than contribute, they now must either survive on their own or die trying. In simple but vivid detail, Velma Wallis depicts a landscape and way of life that are at once merciless and starkly beautiful. In her old women, she has created two heroines of steely determination whose story of betrayal, friendship, community, and forgiveness "speaks straight to the heart with clarity, sweetness, and wisdom" (Ursula K. Le Guin).

The thrilling Newbery Medal–winning classic about an Eskimo girl lost on the Alaskan tundra *Julie of the Wolves* is a staple in the canon of children's literature and the first in the Julie trilogy. The survival theme makes it a good pick for fans of wilderness adventures such as *My Side of the Mountain*, *Hatchet*, or *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. This edition, perfect for classroom or home use, includes John Schoenherr's original scratchboard illustrations throughout, as well as bonus materials such as an introduction written by Jean Craighead

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George's children, the author's Newbery acceptance speech, selections from her field notebooks, a discussion guide, and a further reading guide. To her small Eskimo village, she is known as Miyax; to her friend in San Francisco, she is Julie. When her life in the village becomes dangerous, Miyax runs away, only to find herself lost in the Alaskan wilderness. Miyax tries to survive by copying the ways of a pack of wolves and soon grows to love her new wolf family. Life in the wilderness is a struggle, but when she finds her way back to civilization, Miyax is torn between her old and new lives. Is she Miyax of the Eskimos—or Julie of the wolves? Don't miss any of the books in Jean Craighead George's groundbreaking series: *Julie of the Wolves*, *Julie*, and *Julie's Wolf Pack*.

Long before it was the "oil state," Alaska was the "salmon state" Emphasizes that salmon protection is good for Alaska Alaskans have deeply personal relationships with their salmon. These remarkable fish provide a fundamental source of food, livelihood, and identity, and connect generations and communities throughout the state. Yet while salmon are integral to the lives of many Alaskans, the habitat they need to thrive is increasingly at risk as communities and decision makers evaluate large-scale development proposals. The Salmon Way celebrates and explores the relationships between people and salmon in Alaska. Through story and images, author Amy Gulick shows us that people from wildly different backgrounds all value a salmon way of life. In researching her new book, Amy spent time with individuals whose lives are inextricably linked with salmon. Commercial fishermen take her on as crew; Alaska Native families teach her the art of preserving fish and culture; and sport fishing guides show her where to cast her line as well as her mind. Each experience expands our understanding of the "salmon way" in Alaska. Learn more at [www.thesalmonway.org](http://www.thesalmonway.org)

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The adventures of a school teacher in 1927 who treks across the northern tundra to the remote gold-rush settlement of Chicken.

The bright and inspiring life and work story from a pair of sisters who are Alaskan fisherwomen, along with fifty hearty and comforting recipes that honor wild foods from the sea and the shore. Share in the remarkable and wild lives of Emma Teal Laukitis and Claire Neaton, the Salmon Sisters, who grew up on a homestead in the Aleutians where the family ran a commercial fishing boat in the Alaskan sea. Their book reveals this outward-bound lifestyle of natural bounty, the honest work on a boat's deck, and the wholesome food that comes from local waters and land. Here are creative and simple ways to enjoy wild salmon, halibut, and spot prawns. The sisters are committed to sustaining and celebrating the seafaring community in Alaska, and their business of selling products related to and from the ocean donates a can of wild-caught fish to local food banks for each item purchased.

When Hannah Breece came to Alaska in 1904, it was a remote lawless wilderness of prospectors, murderous bootleggers, tribal chiefs, and Russian priests. She spent fourteen years educating Athabascans, Aleuts, Inuits, and Russians with the stubborn generosity of a born teacher and the clarity of an original and independent mind. Jane Jacobs, Hannah's great-niece, here offers an historical context to Breece's remarkable eyewitness account, filling in the narrative gaps, but always allowing the original words to ring clearly. It is more than an adventure story: it is a powerful work of women's history that provides

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important--and, at times, unsettling--insights into the unexamined assumptions and attitudes that governed white settler's behavior toward native communities at the turn of the century. "An unforgettable...story of a remarkable woman who lived a heroic life."--The New York Times

In the spirit of Cecelia Ahearn and Regina McBride, a lighthearted and relatable debut novel about an advertising copywriter who upends her ordinary life and captures the attention of the world after publishing a seven-part treatise on the existence of fairies. Kate McDaid thought that going to the reading of her great-great-aunt's will would be just another non-event in her ordinary life. A junior copywriter at an advertising agency in Dublin, she was used to spending her days wrangling clients, over-indulging in chocolatey products, and whiling away nights at the pub with her best friends, using her trusty bicycle to get around town. Instead, Kate finds out that the will and her aunt (also known as the Red Witch of Knocknamee) dictates that Kate must publish a series of strange poems called "The Seven Steps" under her own name in order to inherit the rest of her aunt's estate. And those poems? They're a mysterious treatise on the importance and existence of fairies... Kate decides to publish the Steps on a friend's website, thinking that the low traffic on the site would let her posts go unnoticed. She never could have imagined that in a matter of days, she would

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find herself a local celebrity with her own group of devotees and the target of a mysterious and glamorous newspaper reporter. Even Dublin's rock-and-roll sweetheart—and Kate's onetime fling—writes a song inspired by the Steps. While the Steps strike a chord across Ireland and the world, Kate takes the message to heart. But as the tone of each Step moves from free-spirited to sinister, Kate must decide if she will go through with publishing all seven Steps—or protect humankind from an ancient evil. Infused with just enough magic and everyday familiarity that anyone can relate to, this fantastic debut is a page-turner with the perfect mix of humor and mystery.

In this magical debut -- a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize -- a couple's lives are changed forever by the arrival of a little girl, wild and secretive, on their snowy doorstep. Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart--he breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone--but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees. This little girl, who calls herself Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. She hunts with a red fox at her side, skims lightly across the snow, and somehow survives alone in the Alaskan

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wilderness. As Jack and Mabel struggle to understand this child who could have stepped from the pages of a fairy tale, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them.

A powerful story of two unlikely friends brought together by the love of a dog It only takes one day at their new school for Parker and Sven to become mortal enemies. Parker's had a terrible summer and just wants to be invisible, while Sven is desperate to make an impression and be known as anything other than "that boy with epilepsy." When Parker discovers her beloved dog Alaska – who she had to give away last year – now belongs to Sven, she's determined to steal Alaska back. Of course, that's easier said than done...

In Kristin Hannah's *The Great Alone*, a desperate family seeks a new beginning in the near-isolated wilderness of Alaska only to find that their unpredictable environment is less threatening than the erratic behavior found in human nature.

#1 New York Times Instant Bestseller (February 2018) A People "Book of the Week" BuzzFeed's "Most Anticipated Women's Fiction Reads of 2018" Seattle Times's "Books to Look Forward to in 2018" Alaska, 1974. Ernt Allbright came home from the Vietnam War a changed and volatile man. When he loses yet another job, he makes the impulsive decision to move his wife and daughter

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north where they will live off the grid in America's last true frontier. Cora will do anything for the man she loves, even if means following him into the unknown. Thirteen-year-old Leni, caught in the riptide of her parents' passionate, stormy relationship, has little choice but to go along, daring to hope this new land promises her family a better future. In a wild, remote corner of Alaska, the Allbrights find a fiercely independent community of strong men and even stronger women. The long, sunlit days and the generosity of the locals make up for the newcomers' lack of preparation and dwindling resources. But as winter approaches and darkness descends, Ernt's fragile mental state deteriorates. Soon the perils outside pale in comparison to threats from within. In their small cabin, covered in snow, blanketed in eighteen hours of night, Leni and her mother learn the terrible truth: they are on their own.

"I owe Alaska. It gave me everything I have." Says Sidney Huntington, son of an Athapaskan mother and white trader/trapper father. Growing up on the Koyukuk River in Alaska's harsh Interior, that "everything" spans 78 years of tragedies and adventures. When his mother died suddenly, 5-year-old Huntington protected and cared for his younger brother and sister during two weeks of isolation. Later, as a teenager, he plied the wilderness traplines with his father, nearly freezing to death several times. One spring, he watched an ice-filled

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breakup flood sweep his family's cabin and belongings away. These and many other episodes are the compelling background for the story of a man who learned the lessons of a land and culture, lessons that enabled him to prosper as trapper, boat builder, and fisherman. This is more than one man's incredible tale of hardship and success in Alaska. It is also a tribute to the Athapaskan traditions and spiritual beliefs that enabled him and his ancestors to survive. His story, simply told, is a testament to the durability of Alaska's wild lands and to the strength of the people who inhabit them.

From the author of *The Ice Master* comes the remarkable true story of a young Inuit woman who survived six months alone on a desolate, uninhabited Arctic island. In September 1921, four young men and Ada Blackjack, a diminutive 25-year-old Eskimo woman, ventured deep into the Arctic in a secret attempt to colonize desolate Wrangel Island for Great Britain. Two years later, Ada Blackjack emerged as the sole survivor of this ambitious polar expedition. This young, unskilled woman--who had headed to the Arctic in search of money and a husband--conquered the seemingly unconquerable north and survived all alone after her male companions had perished. Following her triumphant return to civilization, the international press proclaimed her the female Robinson Crusoe. But whatever stories the press turned out came from the imaginations of

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reporters: Ada Blackjack refused to speak to anyone about her horrific two years in the Arctic. Only on one occasion--after charges were published falsely accusing her of causing the death of one her companions--did she speak up for herself. Jennifer Niven has created an absorbing, compelling history of this remarkable woman, taking full advantage of the wealth of first-hand resources about Ada that exist, including her never-before-seen diaries, the unpublished diaries from other primary characters, and interviews with Ada's surviving son. Ada Blackjack is more than a rugged tale of a woman battling the elements to survive in the frozen north--it is the story of a hero.

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