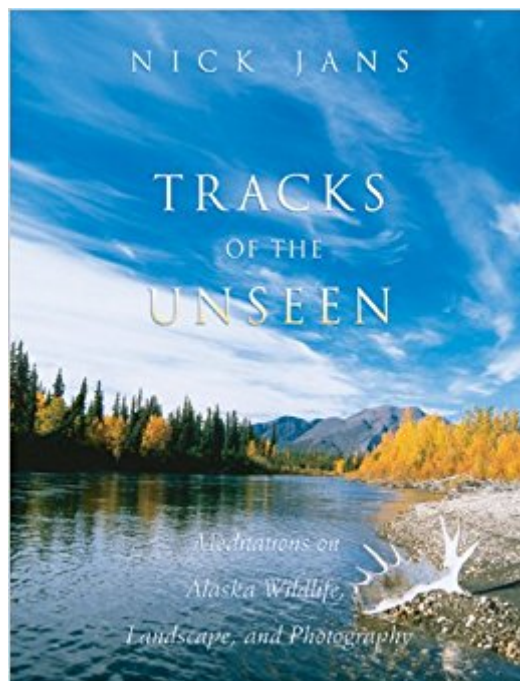




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Tracks Of The Unseen: Meditations On Alaska Wildlife, Landscape, And Photography



Synopsis

Jans shares his extraordinary observations of an Alaska forever unfolding.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lyrical northern essayist Jans, who evoked his life as an arctic schoolteacher in *The Last Light Breaking*, here turns to his avocation: spending time in the wilderness shooting animals--bearing a gun at first, and later, while never quite putting the gun down (there are, after all, bears out there), a camera. In this rangy collection of vignettes and photographs, he once again shows why he is one of Alaska's best writers. His style is sharp and poetic: "I leaned on hope like cold glass," he says of his emotions upon hearing that friends were lost on the tundra. He possesses unblinking bifocal vision, the ability to see the raw pain of arctic life and its overwhelming beauty simultaneously. Similarly, his photographs offer glimpses of the wild spaces that continue to call to Jans decades after he first encountered them. Many are drawn to the North, but few are chosen by it. Jans is one of those chosen. Patricia Monaghan

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Nick Jans' first two books, *The Last Light Breaking* and *A Place Beyond*, have received critical and popular acclaim. He has lived in and taught school in the Alaskan bush for almost 20 years. He and his wife reside in Juneau and Ambler, Alaska.

Well written.

Nick Jans has done it again -- this time with pictures! Mr. Jans' previous compilations of essays ("The Last Light Breaking" and "A Place Beyond"), as well as his Alaska Magazine articles, introduced readers to his great love and appreciation of the Alaskan arctic and its inhabitants. In "Tracks of the Unseen," Mr. Jans also includes his own photographs, which ideally complement his essays. There is some content overlap with his essays in "Alaska" (photographs by Art Wolfe), but this is a more integral pairing of the essays and photos. This is a lovely book, with Mr. Jans' graceful writing continuing to transport readers to the great north.

The book is in very poor condition. Looks like it was wet at one time. Very disappointed.

An entertaining read!

Like all of Nick Jans books he puts you in Alaska.

I'm guessing Nick Jans probably lives like he writes. There's nothing extraneous here. Every word has a purpose. Unfortunately, the message it conveys is one of loss. The wilderness is changing, disappearing, even in the remote areas of the world. Regardless of the message, this book is a beauty. The photography is vibrant, the prose compelling, and the sentiment touching. The wilderness couldn't have found a better voice.

This is a potent book; just 164 pages but every photo is jaw-dropping and not a word is wasted. Author is a life-long Alaskan and in most essays he is reflecting on Alaska and things Alaskan. Humorous, touching and stimulating in many other ways. Well worth your \$\$.

The book was thoroughly enjoyable. Photography was excellent. Chapters were short easy reads. I enjoyed the insights to life in the arctic and the discussion of the people who live there with snapshots of native culture.

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