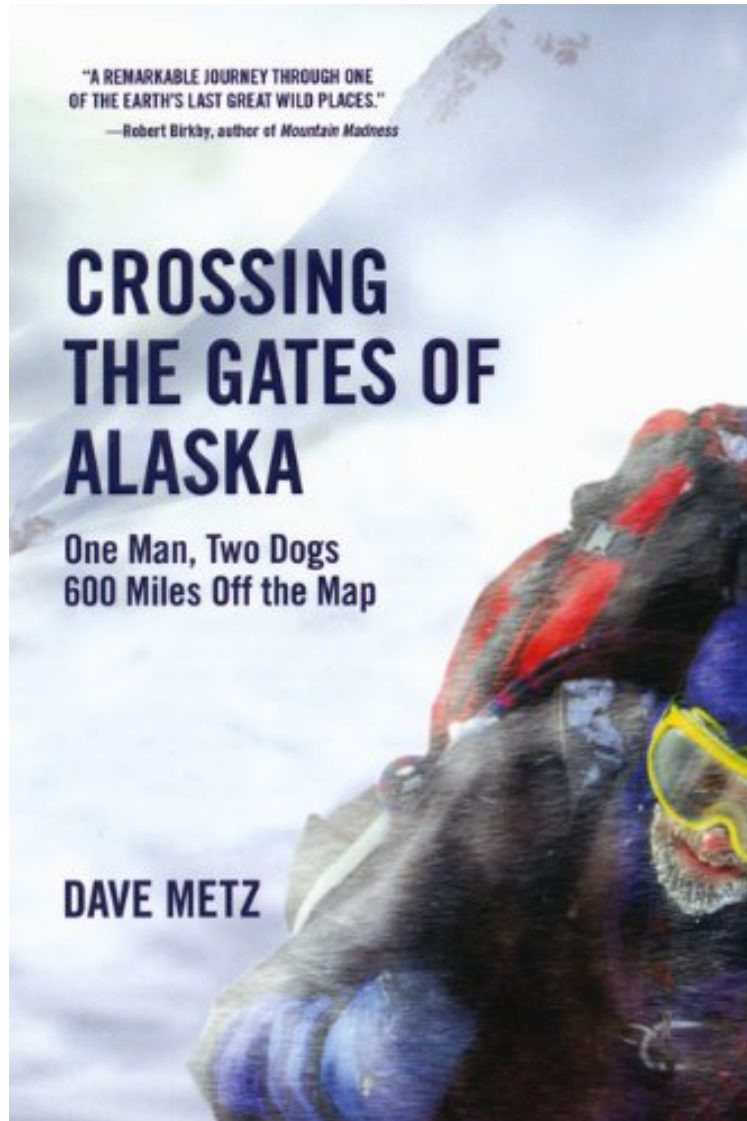


(Download free pdf) Crossing The Gates Of Alaska

Crossing The Gates Of Alaska

Dave Metz

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Dave Metz : Crossing The Gates Of Alaska before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crossing The Gates Of Alaska:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Not the best by far, but parts are to treasure By MBHI saw this pop up as a Kindle freebie and decided to take the chance. I'm glad I did, but have some serious reservations about the book as a whole. First the bad: Nothing really happens. Metz skis, hikes, nearly freezes, nearly starves, nearly gets eaten by wolves, nearly kills his dogs and after all is said and done he has only moved from point A to point B. The journey was pointless and seemed to be done just to prove it can be done. Not that any sane person would want to do

it, but there it is. Kind of reminded me of Helge Pederson's "motorcycle tour" through the Darien Gap in "Ten Years on Two Wheels". Why? The Gap is not made for motorcycles the same as the Brooks Range is not made for human foot traffic. In the overall scheme of things it was a monumentally stupid adventure. Now the good: The best part for me about reading this book was that it helped a little in understanding one of my oldest friends who has the same drive towards the wilderness. A few years ago he chucked it all and went to the woods to live in a hand built cabin. I gained an appreciation for Airedales (might even adopt one this Summer), learned a lot about how to stay warm in horrendous conditions, got an insight into what kind of people live in the wilds of Alaska and got a feel for what people are capable of when driven by a singular desire to accomplish a goal no matter how worthy it may be. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By CustomerGreat read, tough individual. Would have liked to have heard more about the dogs. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book. By ThThe story is real. We get his thoughts and descriptive tellings of the adventure. It's not filled with fluff. I really enjoyed it!

The snow forms the beginning of a near vertical chute that falls at least a thousand feet. My feet, shaking, manage to hug the thin edge of solid rock. I feel my heart creep to my throat and warm sweat drip down my back, defying the subzero Arctic air. Somehow I reach a plateau and think the worst is behind me. I couldn't be more wrong. This is the story of Dave Metz's death-defying, breathtaking, and passionate journey through the Arctic outback. Driven by his lifetime reverence for the outdoors, Dave, with the help of his two beloved Airedale terrier dogs, embarks on a three-month epic of survival and astonishing determination that rivals the most daring world-class explorations. I find myself on a gigantic trench hemmed in on both sides by peaks that look like ice-daggers from another world. The idea that I'm at the mercy of the wild sinks in. . . and I desperately want out of this endless, icebound maze. Skiing up frozen rivers, enduring bitter nights at twenty below zero, and staggering across vast reaches of barren tundra and scrub woodlands, Metz's unprecedented 600-mile trek took him to the remotest regions of the untamed North. In frightening and stunning detail, he shows us an unwavering spirit and a compelling sense of adventure that can only be satisfied when truly free. . . Dave Metz has been to Alaska over a dozen times in the last twenty years. He's kayaked across Alaska twice, once with his beloved dog Jonny riding in the bow, and lived there for two years in remote locations. He's also kayaked and trekked in Peru, Brazil, Canada, and Borneo, and has hiked across most of Oregon and Washington. Despite his forays away from home, he managed to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature from Portland State University, where he also did course work in zoology. He currently works for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as a seasonal fish biologist. In addition to studying mammals and the preservation of indigenous cultures in rain forest regions, he continues zealously to embark on wilderness survival and exploration adventures, cycling, and hiking trips. He lives Philomath, Oregon.

From Booklist With only his two Airedale terriers along as companions, Metz skied from Kotzebue to Ambler and then hiked into the Alaskan interior, covering more than 300 miles in a journey along the Brooks Range. In his blow-by-blow account of seeing this remote part of America, he is refreshingly up front about relying on a satellite phone, GPS, and, at a critical juncture, a supply air drop, proving that preparedness is key to survival. While Metz is meticulous about logistical descriptions, he shies away from explaining just why he embarked on this trip. Further, while he's emotional about his recently deceased dog, he leaves too many questions up in the air about his oft-mentioned girlfriend, who departs at the point of reunion. Armchair travelers and Krakauer fans will enjoy the death-defying descriptions. While there is no harm here, Metz offers yet another record of the travails of an outsider determined to conquer the North for his own reasons without considering the lives of those satisfied simply to live there. --Colleen Mondor