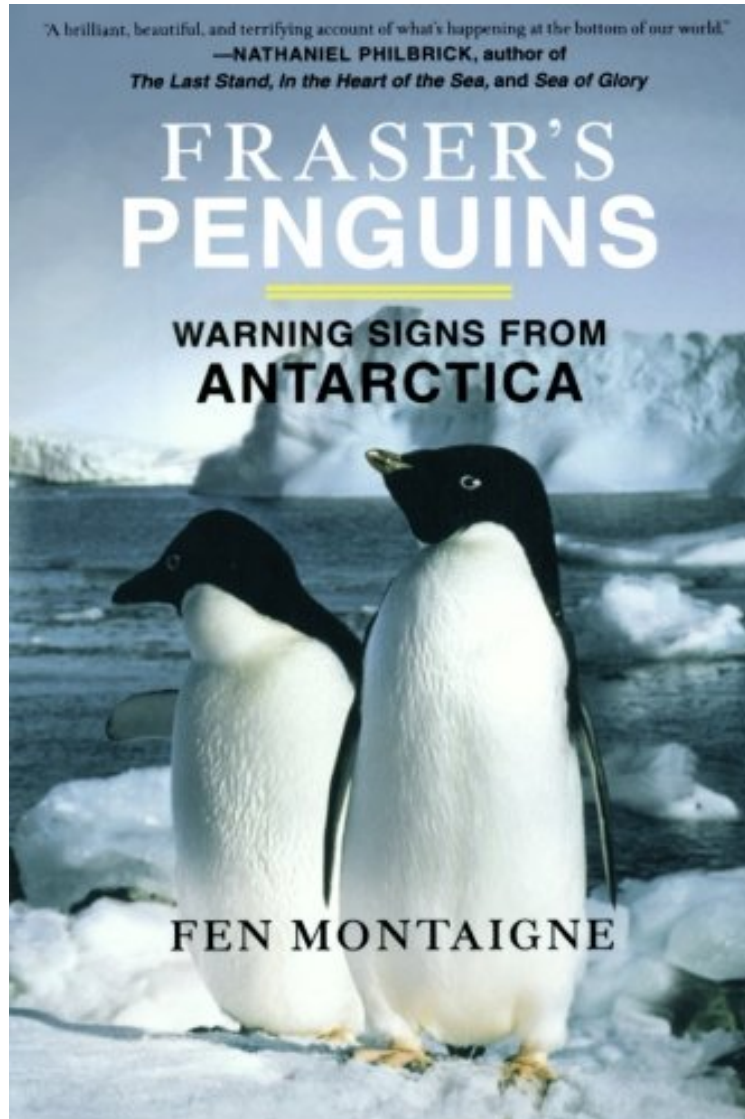


(Read now) Fraser's Penguins: Warning Signs from Antarctica

## Fraser's Penguins: Warning Signs from Antarctica

*Fen Montaigne*

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**Fen Montaigne : Fraser's Penguins: Warning Signs from Antarctica** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fraser's Penguins: Warning Signs from Antarctica:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Riveting Antarctic AdventureBy Christopher BakerFen Montaigne's account of the impact of climate change on adelic penguins in Antarctica is absorbing not only for its mastery of this troubling yet poignant subject but also its vivid writing and story telling drive. The redoubtable Adelic population is dwindling and the likely culprit is human reliance on fossil fuels. Montaigne spent five months with researchers in Antarctica monitoring the dwindling colony of adelies. He skillfully weaves the history of Antarctic exploration, the

science of global warming and adelic population trends, and the quirky personalities of the scientists themselves into a vivid tale that resonates for its clarity and depth. What makes the book special is the author's own reactions to what he sees and feels, along with his writerly descriptions of the strange creatures that inhabit this ethereally beautiful world. Like all good adventure stories this is a tale of discovery where the reader becomes a fellow traveler of the author, seeing what he sees with the same sense of astonishment and awe. The book has all the elements of a classic.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great account of life as a scientist in Antarctica. Well researched and well written.By Kelly TerryThe accounts of a season at Palmer Station in Antarctica were written so well that I felt as though I was there, working alongside the scientists. I enjoyed the background information and the accounts of the penguins as well as of other large birds such as the skuas and petrels. The book does not hammer the global warming topic hard but clearly describes the impact of our warming planet in the final chapter. Very entertaining and informative read.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Convincing Story Told WellBy Been ThereI had the pleasure of sharing a cabin with Fen Montaigne on his first trip south to Palmer Station on the LM GOULD. Little did I know that introduction to Palmer Station and my good friend of many years, Bill Fraser, would result in this outstanding book. Fen does a wonderful job telling a complex science story in terms that all can understand and gives the reader a look into the world of some of the very dedicated researchers and support staff that work in the United States Antarctic Program.Highly recommend this wonderful book that tells the tale of the Adelic penguin in the changing world of the Antarctic Peninsula, the individuals that have spent their careers researching Adelic's in the region and that very special place that allows the work to be accomplished, Palmer Station.

"Fraser's Penguins is a brilliant, beautiful, and terrifying account of what's happening at the bottom of our world."Nathaniel Philbrick, author of *The Last Stand*, *In the Heart of the Sea*, and *Sea of Glory*Called "exceptionally poignant" by *Nature* magazine, Fen Montaigne's sensitive and timely account of five months in Antarctica gives a taste of the global changes that will soon arrive in our own backyards. Scientist Bill Fraser has devoted three decades to Antarctica, and in that time this breathtaking region has warmed faster than any place on earth, with profound consequences for the Adlies, the classic tuxedoed penguin that is dependent on sea ice to survive. During the Antarctic spring and summer of 2005-2006, author Fen Montaigne spent five months working on Fraser's field team, and he returned with a moving tale that chronicles the beauty of the wildest place on earth, the lives of the beloved Adlies, the saga of the discovery of the Antarctic Peninsula, and the story told through Fraser's work of how rising temperatures are swiftly changing this part of the world. It's Montaigne's "descriptive prowess, his ability to evoke lavender and cobalt, magenta and violet without waxing purple, that most impresses" (*New York Times Book Review*) as he chronicles the penguins' plight, which is also our own.

From *Publishers Weekly*Montaigne (*Reeling in Russia*), a journalist and travel writer, spent five months tracking penguins through the breeding season on the northwestern Antarctica peninsula with the scientist Bill Fraser, and his book is a bittersweet account of the stark beauty of the continent and the climate change that threatens its delicate ecosystem. Fraser first came to Antarctica in 1974, and his research on the peninsula, one of the fastest-warming places on the planet, with an 11F winter heat rise in the past 60 years, has made him a pivotal figure in the study of how global warming disrupts not just individual species but creates an ecological cascade. As diminishing sea ice reduces the krill and silver fish that feed the Adlie penguins, who have thrived in this region for thousands of years, they are now dwindling alarmingly; consequently, brown skua birds, predators of the Adlies, are also having trouble breeding, and gentoo penguins, who thrive in warmer conditions, are becoming the dominant species. Montaigne poetically portrays the daunting Antarctic landscape and gives readers an intimate perspective on its rugged, audacious, and charming penguin and human inhabitants. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From *Booklist*Global warming has already come to the Adlie penguins at Palmer Station on the Antarctic Peninsula. Journalist Montaigne spent five months there working with biologist Bill Fraser and his devoted team of wildlife researchers. Fraser attests that much has changed since he first arrived in the polar region in 1975. Temperatures are up, the areas glaciers have receded, and the ice shelf covering the nearby Wendell Sea has shrunk considerably. Krill that used to thrive under the blue ice are now harder for Adlie penguins to find. Receding ice has also allowed more predatory seals into the area. Sadly, Fraser has watched numerous penguin colonies established over 500 years ago disappear. In this sympathetic firsthand report, Montaigne describes the lives of both the researchers who brave the harsh weather and the penguins whose habitat is quickly becoming inhospitable to their reproduction. Montaigne's compelling account is a clear and impassioned call for environmental action before the consequences of global warming turn catastrophic worldwide. --Rick Roche "A bittersweet account of the stark beauty of the continent and the climate change that threatens its delicate ecosystem .... Montaigne poetically portrays the daunting Antarctic landscape and gives readers an intimate perspective on its rugged, audacious, and charming penguin and human inhabitants." "PW" "In this sympathetic firsthand report, Montaigne describes the lives of both the researchers who brave the harsh weather and the penguins whose habitat is quickly becoming inhospitable to their reproduction. Montaigne's compelling account is a clear and impassioned call for environmental action before the

consequences of global warming turn catastrophic worldwide." Rick Roche, "Booklist" "Sobering, fact-based cautionary treatise on the quiet storm of climate change." Kirkus "Richly observed and keenly affecting, "Fraser's Penguins" is a portrait of a world in the process of disappearing. Fen Montaigne has written an evocative and important book" Montaigne is a controlled writer, offering careful and clear explanations of matters technical and lexicographic, biologically microscopic and meteorologically global. But it's his descriptive prowess, his ability to evoke lavender--and cobalt, magenta and violet--without waxing purple, that most impresses .... Sometimes telling less reveals more. At other times, Montaigne gives thrilling, blow-by-blow accounts of bird battles and breakups .... "Fraser's Penguins" leaves one feeling exhilarated--by these remarkable creatures, the landscape they inhabit and the scientists who've devoted their lives to studying both."--Elizabeth Royte, "The New York Times Book Review" "Exceptionally poignant. [Montaigne] voices the emotions that inundate everyone who works in this vast wilderness. And he captures details such as the fantastic scenery as the boat picks its way through broken sea ice dotted with resting seals and groups of penguins squint-eyed under a dazzling light."--Yvon Le Maho,