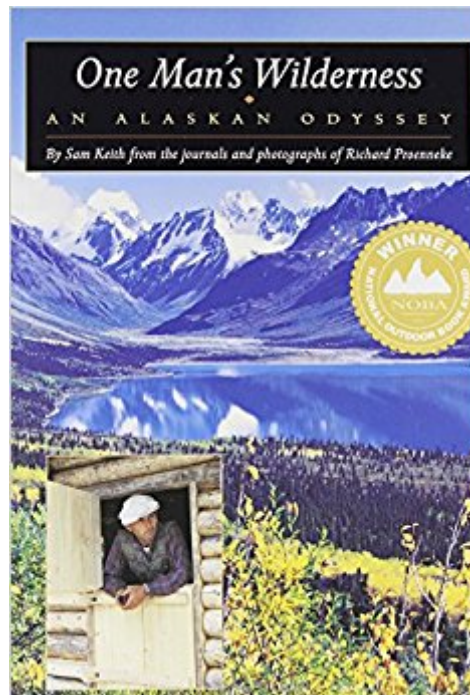




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One Man's Wilderness: An Alaskan Odyssey



Synopsis

This best-selling memoir from Richard Proenneke's journals and with firsthand knowledge of his subject and the setting, Sam Keith has woven a tribute to a man who carved his masterpiece out of the beyond. To live in a pristine land unchanged by man . . . to roam a wilderness through which few other humans has passed . . . to choose an idyllic site, cut trees by hand, and build a log cabin. . . to be self-sufficient craftsman, making what is needed from materials available...to be not at odds with the world, but content with one's own thoughts, dreams and company. Thousands have had such dreams, but Richard Proenneke lived them. This book is a moving account of the day-to-day explorations and activities Dick carried out alone....alone in the wilderness...and the constant chain of nature's events that kept him company.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book made a big splash when it debuted in 1973. Keith based the text on the journals and photography of Richard Proenneke, who, after racking up years of 50-hour work weeks, did what many of us only fantasize about: he chunked it all and went to live in the woods. Now in his 80s, Proenneke still abides in the log cabin he built with his own hands and has become an icon for naturalists. Though few will follow Proenneke's lead, his story can be quite inspiring. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"One Man's Wilderness is the best modern piece of prose about Alaska, the one that gives the

truest picture of what living in the bush today is like for the lone individual." "Ã Â ---Anchorage Daily News"[Proenneke's] journals from the text of this handsome book, and his parkling color slides illustrate it with a beauty that tugs at your heart and sets your heels to itching just a little. You owe yourself the pleasure of this book." ---Biloxi Sun Hearld

Not a wilderness survival story. Not a How To book either. Just a fascinating read about the time he spent alone in the wilds of AK. Could not put it down until the end. The man was amazing - and he started his Alaskan Adventure at the age of 51 years young.

More than any novel, any mystery, any adventure story, this book takes you to a place further away than you'll ever hope to be. The timelessness of this man's adventure in the Alaskan bush and the call that you hear while reading is quite a thing. You can't put this book down. Through every day that Dick spends on Upper Lake, and every seemingly mundane and homely task, you're right there with him. This book covers sixteen months worth of Dick's journals in selecting the location for his cabin, starting it and seeing it through to furnished completion. I feel like I accomplished his feats right along with him and I long to revisit my second home on Twin Lakes.

I'm only halfway through, but it is an awesome book so far! If you appreciate learning how a man built his own cabin from scratch by cutting trees down and perfectly assembling a cabin, then this is for you. He does rely on getting food brought in, but does live off the land for the most part. I love the descriptions and content of the book very much! Very adventurous book.

What I really loved about this book is the fact that this was a true story. An amazing man who came to the wilderness with only love for the land and respect for all who inhabit the wilderness. I have visited the cabin twice now and have visited Twin Lakes many times to enjoy the fishing that they provide and the absolute wonder that the country there is. This book really makes it real and I will never forget the added meaning of being here after reading this wonderful story.

Great book, love the format. I will read this over and over as the years pass. Glad I found a blog that had mentioned this book as on of the top ten to read for all outdoor enthusiasts. I have been to Alaska and my family made memories we will tell for the rest of our lives, the desire to go back and explore more is a fire that's been fully ignited. Sam's rendering of Dick's journal brings to life so many aspects we have fallen away from and this book is a reminder of how to get back to so much

of the simple beauty of life.

It's really an amazing story and so incredibly documented that the authenticity is unquestionable. This book should appeal on several levels from 'real' environmentalism to human endeavor to simple folksy perspectives. I find myself rereading this every couple of years and bought my latest copy as a gift.

I was telling my husband about this book as I started reading it. He said, "Don't you remember, we read that many years ago when Alaska Magazine published it"? I knew that Babe, the pilot, seemed familiar. It didn't matter. I was happy to read it a second time which is unusual for me. Oh, how I would have loved to have been able to do what Mr. Proenneke did and to live where he lived. There is nothing dull about this book and I suspect the people who find it dull haven't any interest in living in the wilderness without Blackberries, i-pods, automobiles and restaurants. Even though most of us who enjoyed the book probably don't begin to have the skills that Richard Proenneke had which made what he did possible (and a pilot friend who delivered for free) I think we all wish we could do what he did. I know I do. I didn't realize that a sequel exists. It costs big bucks, but if it's anything close to as interesting as this book, it's worth it. Maybe I'll find out if the Mission Girls ever showed-up.

I've read it a couple of times. I loaned my first one out and never got it back, which is why I bought this one. Quick read, kind of like reading someones diary about living alone in Alaska. It is not a philosophical book, which is what I liked about it.

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