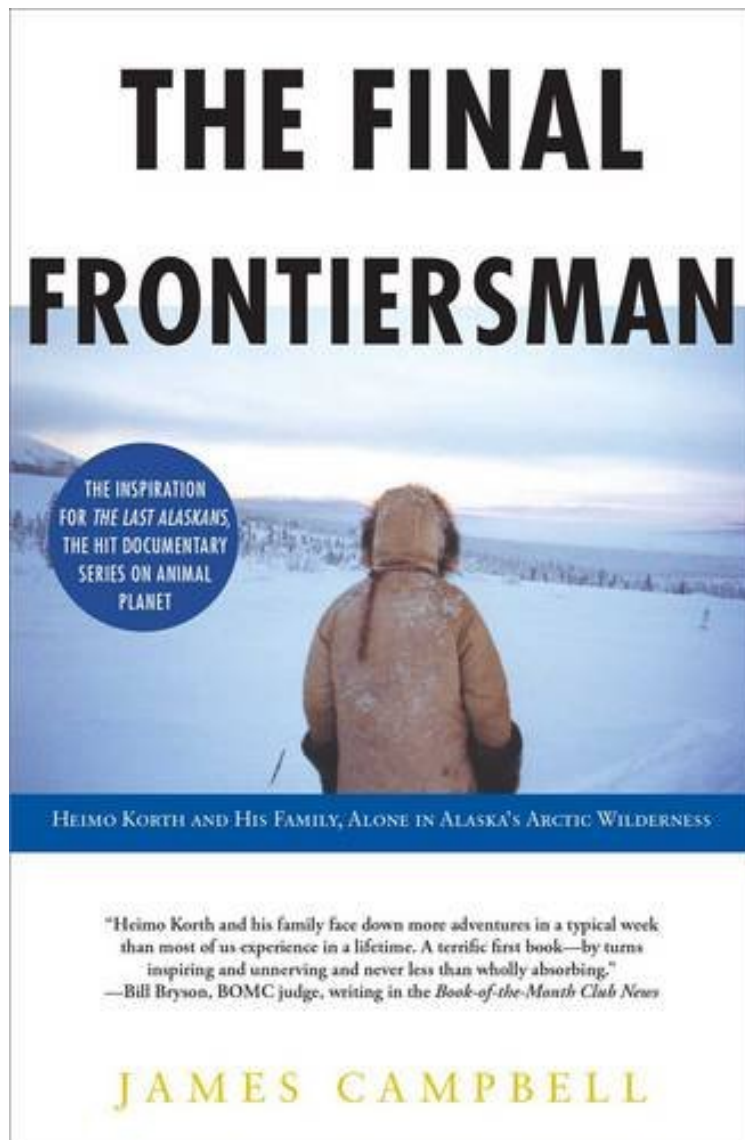


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## The Final Frontiersman: Heimo Korth and His Family, Alone in Alaska's Arctic Wilderness

James Campbell

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#22470 in Books James Campbell 2005-09-13 2005-09-13 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.44 x .90 x 5.501, .69 #File Name: 074345314X320 pages The Final Frontiersman Heimo Korth and His Family Alone in Alaska s Arctic Wilderness | File size: 47.Mb

**James Campbell : The Final Frontiersman: Heimo Korth and His Family, Alone in Alaska's Arctic Wilderness** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Final Frontiersman: Heimo Korth and His Family, Alone in Alaska's Arctic Wilderness:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great read,By C. AlvestefferAwesome book! If you enjoy watching The Last Alaskans, you will LOVE this book.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Really enjoyed this bookBy Linda G. BoyerI watch the TV program but learned so much more from the book. The background on laws regulating their lives was revealing and sad. They are brave and courageous people.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Book was excellent, and I fully enjoyed itBy Donna L. OglesbyThe Book was excellent, and I fully enjoyed it, brought you a more in depth look into the lives of Both Heimo and Edna, Their personal lives before and after they met and their lives and tragety they suffered together concerning their first daughter together after getting married. The Show on Discovery, The Last Alaskins give you an understanding of their lives out there and what they have to do to servive, and this book gives you more of an understand of everything that has gone on concerning the refuge, and what people that are still there are having to go though to stay and live there. If I was younger, I would of chose this lifestyle, and been more content with having less tan all this modern lifestyle or rules and regulations..to live free...

The inspiration for *The Last Alaskans*—the eight-part documentary series on the Discovery Channel! Called “[one of] the greatest life-or-death-tales ever told” (*Esquire*), James Campbell’s inimitable insider account of a family’s nomadic life in the unshaped Arctic wilderness “is an icily gripping, intimate profile that stands up well beside Krakauer’s classic [*Into the Wild*], and it stands too, as a kind of testament to the rough beauty of improbably wild dreams” (*Men’s Journal*). Hundreds of hardy people have tried to carve a living in the Alaskan bush, but few have succeeded as consistently as Heimo Korth. Originally from Wisconsin, Heimo traveled to the Arctic wilderness in his feverous twenties. Now, more than three decades later, Heimo lives with his wife and two daughters approximately 200 miles from civilization—a sustainable, nomadic life bounded by the migrating caribou, the dangers of swollen rivers, and by the very exigencies of daily existence. In *The Final Frontiersman*, Heimo’s cousin James Campbell chronicles the Korth family’s amazing experience, their adventures, and the tragedy that continues to shape their lives. With a deft voice and in spectacular, at times unimaginable detail, Campbell invites us into Heimo’s heartland and home. The Korths wait patiently for a small plane to deliver their provisions, listen to distant chatter on the radio, and go sledding at 44° below zero—all the while cultivating the hard-learned survival skills that stand between them and a terrible fate. Awe-inspiring and memorable, *The Final Frontiersman* reads like a rustic version of the American Dream and reveals for the first time a life undreamed by most of us: amid encroaching environmental pressures, apart from the herd, and alone in a stunning wilderness that for now, at least, remains the final frontier.

From *Publishers Weekly*Heimo Korth was one of the many young men who set out for Alaska in the 1960s and '70s to recreate the life of early fur traders in the American West, a movement first observed in John McPhee's classic *Coming into the Country*. Journalist Campbell has written a worthy sequel to McPhee's book that is a powerful tale in its own right, focusing solely on Korth, who now "lives more remotely than any other person in Alaska" as one of only seven hunter-trappers with a permit to live in the 19.5-million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Korth lives with his wife and two daughters 130 miles above the Arctic Circle, the only settlers for more than 500 miles (250 miles from the nearest road and another 300 miles to the nearest hospital in Fairbanks). Campbell artfully details a number of visits he makes to the Korth family in 2002, as he accompanies Korth on hunting and trapping expeditions that make him—and the reader—feel "transported straight back into the 19th century." He also sympathetically recounts Korth's flight from his abusive Wisconsin father and his reinvention of himself as an Alaskan "legend," a "gun-toting, park-hating anti-animal rights trapper with a soft side"—but one who is well respected by managers of the ANWR. What makes this more than just a profile of a fascinating personality is Campbell's deft weaving of Alaskan history into Korth's tale, showing how the recent influx of developers and ecotourists is making the trapping life "more of an anachronism with each passing year." Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From *Booklist*By the mid-1970s, countercultural attitudes had propelled so many wilderness seekers to Alaska that writer John McPhee gave an account of them in *Coming into the Country* (1976). Over several visits in 2002, Campbell absorbed the life story of one such emigrant from the lower 48, Heimo Korth, who happens to be his cousin. Korth traps fur-bearing animals to generate what little cash he makes, and hunts caribou, moose, and fowl for his food. Campbell's observation of the shooting and skinning this necessitates is objective, leaving nothing to imagination. Retrospectively, Campbell relates why Korth moved to Alaska (partly due to antagonism with his father), followed by incidents in his marriage to a native woman and their raising of three daughters (one of whom died in an awful canoeing accident) along a remote tributary of the Yukon River. Because the author perceptively describes how teenagers Rhonda and Krin feel about growing up in such isolation, the circle of interest for Campbell's well-organized work will encompass fans of coming-of-age stories in addition to those intrigued by unconventional lifestyles. Gilbert Taylor Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "What makes this more than just a profile of a fascinating personality is Campbell's deft weaving of Alaskan history into Korth's tale." -- *Publishers Weekly* "[One of] the greatest life-or-death tales ever told." -- *Esquire* "Campbell makes the case that an increasingly urban America -- and its desires for oil, for timber, for neat and packaged wilderness -- is

killing and, worse, forgetting the frontier we once worshiped." -- The New York Times "The Final Frontiersman is an icily gripping, intimate profile that stands up well beside Krakauer's classic, and it stands too, as a kind of testament to the rough beauty of improbably wild dreams." -- Men's Journal "Heimo Korth and his family face down more adventures in a typical week than most of us experience in a lifetime. A terrific first book -- by turns inspiring and unnerving and never less than wholly absorbing." -- Bill Bryson, BOMC judge, writing in the Book-of-the-Month Club News