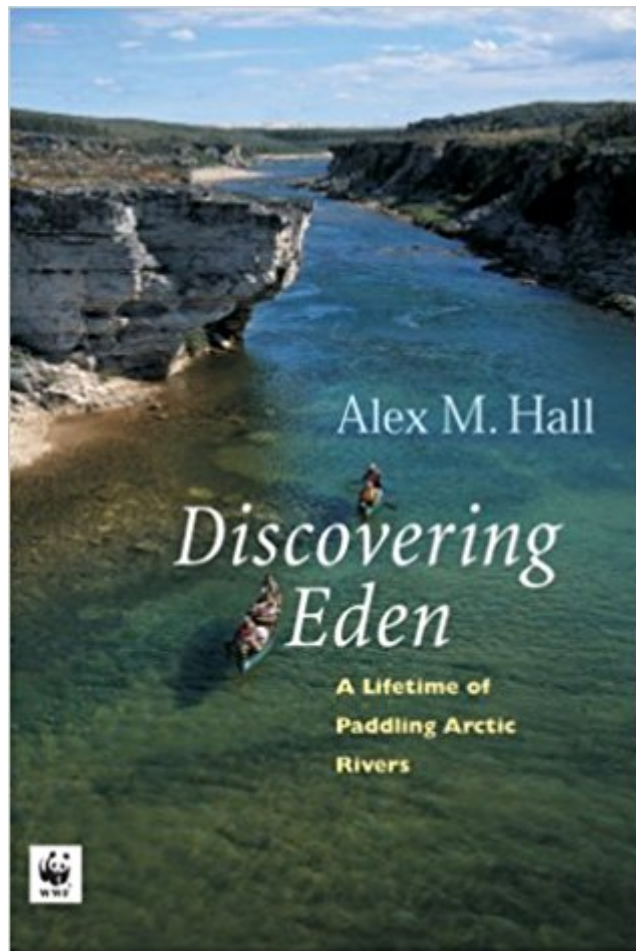




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# Discovering Eden: A Lifetime Of Paddling The Arctic Rivers



## Synopsis

West of Hudson Bay in Canada's Arctic, an enormous triangle of tundra, twice the size of Alberta or Texas, sweeps north to the polar sea and forms the largest single wilderness left on the continent. Although the word "tundra" may conjure up an image of a desolate, treeless plain, the mainland portion of the Canadian Arctic is far from featureless and vibrant with life. The area is home to millions of geese and other birds, and is the haunt of some of the world's last, great, migratory herds of large herbivores and the predators that follow them. It is also an area where great pristine rivers cut through ranges of rugged hills strewn with boulders and serpentine, sandy eskers course over the landscape. *Discovering Eden* explores this unspoiled, perfect, natural world, revealing a place that still exists far beyond the modern world's concrete jungles and polluted air. The book explores the lure of the Barren Lands and why it is, for the author, a personal Eden. The book is also filled with adventures- a personal, inner one for the author, and the thrill of canoeing this untouched wilderness for those who travel with him.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...a riveting read that captures the breath of the tundra..." -- Cliff Jacobson, author of *...the Barren Lands* [is] beyond words, but you won't come any closer than those on the following pages..." -- Monte Hummel, President, World Wildlife Foundation "[a]...work of power and emotion...an evocative read worth of the magnificent land it celebrates." -- David F. Pelly, author of

Alex Hall lives in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories, where he operates Canoe Arctic Inc. conducting

wilderness Canoeing expeditions. He is deeply concerned about the recent changes taking place in the arctic Barren Lands where Industrial development threatens vast areas of wilderness. While there is still time, aboriginal communities in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are working together with the support of World Wildlife Fund Canada to protect substantial areas of tundra in their pristine, natural state for future generations.

We were thrilled to read this book by Alex Hall with his years of experience guiding people on the Thelon River. It brought back memories of the Thelon and other northern rivers we have paddled, with the exhilaration, inspiration, and danger inherent in such travel. His camaraderie with wolves stands out as testimony for these often misunderstood and maligned canines. Whether in Nunavut, Wyoming, or Michigan, nothing is more evocative of wildness than the long wail of a wild wolf. One knows then that all is well with a world that has space for these incredible creatures.

I would love to meet Alex Hall, his stories and experiences in the arctic are the best. I have spent 9 years living in Alaska and have always wanted to canoe the arctic. Thank you Mr. Alex Hall.

A great story about a guy who found his way to what he does best. Also a great read about the mystery and lure of a relatively unexplored area, the Canadian arctic tundra and barren lands, perhaps the last in North America, and the experiences of travelling it.

Alex Hall has translated his knowledge of and love for Canada's Thelon River in this excellent book. It is not a "how to" book, as the adventures he takes are not of that sort. On their own very few people could cobble together the support and equipment, and then find a survivable route given the scant mapping available. Alex's years in the North have given him the skills and connections to pull off successful trips. Alex writes an account of how he puts it all together and travels the river with groups of visitors. His love for the Barrens, the Thelon, and the North shine through and make the reader appreciate his adventures. It also makes you want to go on one with him.

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