

Alice Rearden, Marie Meade, Freda Jimmie, Veronica Kaganak, David Chanar Sr., and Noah Andrew Sr. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press in Association with Anchorage Museum Association and Calista Elders Council.

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*Kerrie Ann Shannon*  
*Department of Anthropology*  
*312D Eielson Building*  
*PO Box 757720*  
*University of Alaska Fairbanks*  
*Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7720, USA*  
*ffkas@uaf.edu*

**THE LAST POLAR BEAR: FACING THE TRUTH OF A WARMING WORLD.** A Photographic Journey by STEVEN KAZLOWSKI, with nine contributors. Seattle, Washington: Braided River, The Mountaineers Books, 2008. ISBN 9778-1-59485-059-2. 208 p., maps, colour plates, sugg. readings, index. Hardbound. US\$39.95.

Although global warming has been described as the most critical environmental issue of our time, among the general public, many are still uncertain as to what is at stake and what can be done to stem the feverish pace of climate change. *The Last Polar Bear: Facing the Truth of a Warming World* outlines the escalating crisis of global warming and what it means not only for the Arctic's most iconic species, the polar bear, but for all species that rely on sea ice for their survival. In a time when the polar bear is the poster child of climate change and we are continually bombarded with images of polar bears on shrinking pans of ice, Kazlowski brings a deeper perspective to the issue. From microscopic copepods living in the epontic community underneath the sea ice to bowhead whales, the largest inhabitants of the Arctic, Kazlowski guides the reader on a revealing photographic journey, showing us exactly what we are gambling to lose if we choose not to take action and continue our unabated consumption of fossil fuels. By weaving together Kazlowski's stunning photographs with thought-provoking essays, the book provides a fresh perspective on the issue of climate change and provides a compelling wake-up call to all of us.

Kazlowski's introduction to the book takes the reader to the living edge of the sea ice, where the polar bear and the Iñupiat have hunted whales and seals for millennia. In a changing world, where the sea ice is now melting faster than most scientific models can predict, Kazlowski sets the stage for a series of highly informative essays from conservationists, environmentalists, and scientists on the true threats of global warming. Theodore Roosevelt IV, a great grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt, provides a captivating introduction to the world of the polar bear,

from its unique adaptations to survival in the harsh Arctic environment to its intimate relationship with the sea ice. Daniel Glick, a long-time correspondent for *Newsweek*, puts the pieces of the global warming puzzle together by detailing the scientific evidence that explains why our world is now warmer than it has been in over 100 000 years. Glick presents startling scientific data on the increasing concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> in the earth's atmosphere and highlights the consensus among scientists that we are responsible for the drastic warming of our planet. Glick's revealing essay may remind many of a famous quote from Walt Kelly that appeared on an Earth Day poster in 1970: "We have met the enemy and he is us," an affirmation that is repeated throughout the book. Charles Wohlforth delves into over 30 years of polar bear research in Canada and Alaska to recount the impacts of climate change on this species. From drowning bears, to starving bears, to polar bear populations in decline, Wohlforth details the scientific basis for the Center for Biological Diversity's petition to list the polar bears as a threatened species under the United States Endangered Species Act.

Throughout the book, there are excerpts from Kazlowski's photographic journal in which he shares his experiences as he traveled from Point Hope, Alaska all the way to Herschel Island in Canada's Yukon Territory. These short stories take the reader into Kazlowski's world, where patience, persistence, and the ability to withstand mind-numbing cold have won him the photographs in this book, including a rare glimpse of a sow and two cubs emerging from a spring maternity den and pictures of fossilized walrus bones near the community of Point Hope, where Kazlowski participated in the Iñupiat celebration of Independence day. These stories detail the generosity of the Iñupiat, who taught Kazlowski how to travel on sea ice and shared with him their culture and the subsistence lifestyle that is being threatened by the melting Arctic sea ice.

Editor Christine Clifton-Thornton gives the reader an additional glimpse into the world of the Iñupiat and introduces the reader to Arnold Brower, Sr., an elder in the community of Barrow, Alaska, who has witnessed global warming with his own eyes. From shrinking sea ice to melting permafrost, Brower, an octogenarian, has had a front-row seat to the climate change crisis. Brower believes that the Iñupiat, the sea ice, and the animals are all tied together. Richard Nelson in his essay delves into the ancient relationship between the Iñupiat and the polar bear, who have shared the sea ice environment of the Beaufort and Chukchi seas for centuries, if not millennia. Nelson takes the reader into the world of the Iñupiat hunter, where the accumulated knowledge of countless generations has led to a detailed understanding of the polar bear and the sea-ice environment. It is this understanding of the natural world that has led to contrasting views among the Iñupiat on the impacts of resource development. In his essay, Nick Jans examines this conflict in the oil fields of the North Slope of Alaska, where business is booming, spurring economic growth in many communities,

while at the same time slowly closing the door on our ability to prevent the melting of our polar world.

Although the scope and implications of the climate-change crises can be overwhelming, many people remain unaware that the solutions to prevent global warming are at hand. Frances Beinecke, president of the Natural Resource Defence Council, brings a message of hope on how we can avoid the potentially dire consequences of climate change by taking action to reduce our carbon footprint. From the use of alternative energy sources such as geothermal, wind, and solar power to using more energy-efficient appliances, she highlights the need to take action and the role that every citizen can play in lobbying politicians for meaningful climate-change legislation. In the final pages of the book, Daniel Glick provides tips and further information on how we can all do our part to help protect the polar bear, the planet, and our future.

Although there are some minor repetitions of the content among the essays and a couple of small editorial oversights, these do little to detract from the overall excellent quality of the book. As a book that seeks to shed light on the threat of global warming to the Arctic's inhabitants, it is a complete success. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in polar bears, the Arctic, wildlife photography, or simply gaining a better understanding of global warming. The photographs and breadth of knowledge in this book make it equally at home on a coffee table or an academic's bookshelf. Steven Kazlowski is to be congratulated for his efforts to bring the issue of global warming to the public through his pictures of Arctic inhabitants that are being threatened by our warming world.

*Evan S. Richardson*  
Wildlife Biologist  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
5320-122 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 3S5, Canada  
*Evan.Richardson@ec.gc.ca*

**THROUGH DARKENING SPECTACLES: MEMOIRS OF DIAMOND JENNESS.** By DIAMOND JENNESS and STUART E. JENNESS. Gatineau, Quebec: Canadian Museum of Civilization, 2008. ISBN 978-0-660-19802-6. Mercury Series, History Paper 55. xxvi + 407 p., maps, b&w illus., appendices, references, index. Softbound. Cdn\$39.95.

Diamond Jenness' *People of the Twilight* introduced me to the Arctic 40 years ago. The very same copy I read as an undergraduate remains on my bookshelf to this day. I can't credit that first reading with turning my still uncertain occupational ambitions toward anthropology, or, once that die had been cast, toward studies of Inuit history and ethnography. But those decisions eventually brought me

back to the book—actually, to its author—as curiosity about the storied past of my chosen profession, particularly its Canadian branch, inevitably led to Jenness, this country's leading light during the interwar period.

An expatriate New Zealander and long-serving scientist with Canada's National Museum, Jenness (1886–1969) epitomizes anthropology's mythical heroic age. Trained at Oxford when the discipline was in its infancy, he was by times a horse-and-buggy ethnographer, a linguist and anthropometrist, and in the days before radiocarbon dating, a self-described “scrounger in the earth.” Readers of these pages may know of his pioneering accounts of turn-of-the-century Copper Inuit life, his discoveries of Dorset and Old Bering Sea cultures, and his series of critical assessments of “Eskimo Administration” under four flags, issued by the Arctic Institute of North America in the 1960s. Less familiar are studies of Papuan customs and of Cypriot economic history, works that bracketed a career spanning six decades. Yet for all his many and varied contributions, how odd it was to discover that Jenness' name barely registered in the profession's collective memory, his scholarship, until quite recently, garnering mention chiefly in footnotes, if acknowledged at all. Having little sense of what the job actually entailed, I jumped into a research project whose aim was to reclaim the man from unwarranted obscurity. A biography is now inching its way toward completion. This last explains my special interest in the title under review, no less my estimation of its pros and cons.

Clyde Kluckhohn once described anthropology as a “hybrid monster,” the progeny of humanistic and scientific traditions. *Through Darkening Spectacles* stems from similar parentage. Its content, one part memoir, one part biography, is the product of two authors, father and son, each writing in his own time and with his own purpose, temper, and tone. The volume's raison d'être is a collection of seven reminiscences that the senior Jenness penned at the very end of his days. More or less autobiographical in nature, they range over varied ground, describing people and places and recalling some of life's more memorable experiences. Complementing the set are five other pieces, all published previously, and the text of a talk Jenness gave on a research trip to Greenland, the baker's dozen arranged chronologically and illustrated (as is the entire text) with photographs and maps. The book's remaining nine chapters, as well as the copious explanatory annotations sprinkled throughout his father's writings, are from the hand of Stuart Jenness and draw on a mix of archival research and personal recollection. There are also several tables and appendices, including lists of works by and about Diamond Jenness. Together, this rich vein of detail serves to fill in gaps—both factual and temporal—within and between the main narratives. Its effect is to endow the entire work with the imprimatur of biography, and in the process, as the junior author freely admits in prefatory remarks, “justifies the inclusion of my name alongside his on the title page” (p. xxii).