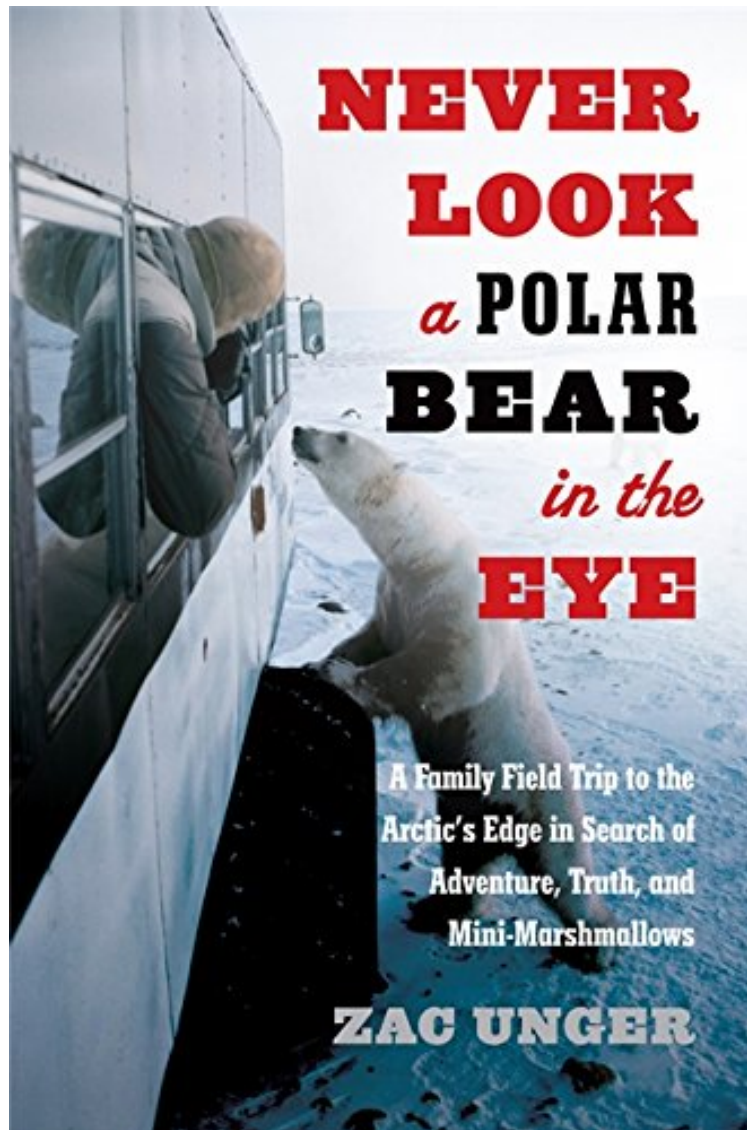


[Mobile book] Never Look a Polar Bear in the Eye: A Family Field Trip to the Arctic's Edge in Search of Adventure, Truth, and Mini-Marshmallows

Never Look a Polar Bear in the Eye: A Family Field Trip to the Arctic's Edge in Search of Adventure, Truth, and Mini-Marshmallows

Zac Unger

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Zac Unger : Never Look a Polar Bear in the Eye: A Family Field Trip to the Arctic's Edge in Search of Adventure, Truth, and Mini-Marshmallows before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth

my time, and all praised *Never Look a Polar Bear in the Eye: A Family Field Trip to the Arctic's Edge in Search of Adventure, Truth, and Mini-Marshmallows*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative book. Condescending tone ruins it. By MillvilleMaven I bought the book because I will be visiting Churchill on a tour in November. I thought it would give me a good look at the polar bear situation and whether the creatures are actually endangered or not. It did give me that. It also gave me an overdose of the author's condescending attitude towards tourists. Having lived in a resort area for seven years, I am very aware of the way locals feel about tourists. It's a love-hate affair. To be fair to those who have spent multi-thousands of dollars on a polar bear excursion, though, it's not like a seashore daytripper. For what it's worth, locals like those who stop into town for six months or so even less than the daily and weekly visitors. That's probably why they advised the author to go outside and ignore the warning signs. They wanted him to be eaten. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Churchill captured By Marilyn Sand I read this book as my husband and I traveled to Churchill in August. We were there to see beluga whales but hoped to see a bear (which we didn't). This book was delightful and accurate in its description of Churchill, which we enjoyed immensely. As tree huggers who grew up in the 60s, the scientific and environmental issues discussed in the book were very much appreciated. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Author seems conflicted By Kathy Edens Overall this is an entertaining and witty book. As someone who has also visited Churchill, I wondered how the author would feel about this small town who's numbers swell every fall with tourists who want to see the magnificent polar bears waiting for the ice to freeze on the Hudson Bay. The author is there for the same reason but he seemingly puts himself above the mere tourist because he is doing research {in order to write this book}. He is critical of the tourists yet he puts himself into a variety of situations with the intent that he will see bears. His goal is the same as those he criticizes. Additionally, he is pretty critical of the shabbiness of the town, yet criticizes their efforts to earn money catering to the tourists during the season. And, he admits to living in an apartment where he and his family have no furniture because their stay in the community is temporary. He redeems himself somewhat by giving an accurate accounting of the numbers and health of the bears which he admits is much better than his preconceived vision was. Because of this honesty, he has been criticized by climate change activists who have adopted the polar bear as the symbol of environmental doom. Their numbers are larger and their health is basically the same as it was decades ago...some years better, some years worse. It is truly a survival of the fittest scenario. One comment I must make about his condemnation of the tourists who take the tundra buggy excursions...I stayed at the tundra buggy lodge parked on the shore of the bay. The author accuses the drivers of allowing the tourists to shout at the bears, bang on the side of the tundra buggy to get their attention. Our guide and driver NEVER allowed this behavior. We did not pursue bears, but instead parked and allowed them to approach the vehicle if they so chose. I'm not sure which company he went with, the my Natural Habitat guide and driver never would have allowed us to act so disrespectful.

I like to go out for walks, but its a little awkward to push the baby stroller and carry a shotgun at the same time. housewife from Churchill, Manitoba Yes, welcome to Churchill, Manitoba. Year-round human population: 943. Yet despite the isolation and the searing cold here at the arctic's edge, visitors from around the globe flock to the town every fall, driven by a single purpose: to see polar bears in the wild. Churchill is The Polar Bear Capital of the World, and for one unforgettable bear season, Zac Unger, his wife, and his three children moved from Oakland, California, to make it their temporary home. But they soon discovered that its really the polar bears who are at home in Churchill, roaming past the coffee shop on the main drag, peering into garbage cans, languorously scratching their backs against fence posts and front doorways. Where kids in other towns receive admonitions about talking to strangers, Churchill schoolchildren get Lets All Be Bear Aware booklets to bring home. (Lesson number 8: Never explore bad-smelling areas.) Zac Unger takes readers on a spirited and often wildly funny journey to a place as unique as it is remote, a place where natives, tourists, scientists, conservationists, and the most ferocious predators on the planet converge. In the process he becomes embroiled in the controversy surrounding polar bear science and finds out that some of what we've been led to believe about the bears imminent extinction may not be quite the case. But mostly what he learns is about human behavior in extreme situations . . . and also why you should never even think of looking a polar bear in the eye.

Dan Rubenstein, Canadian Geographic