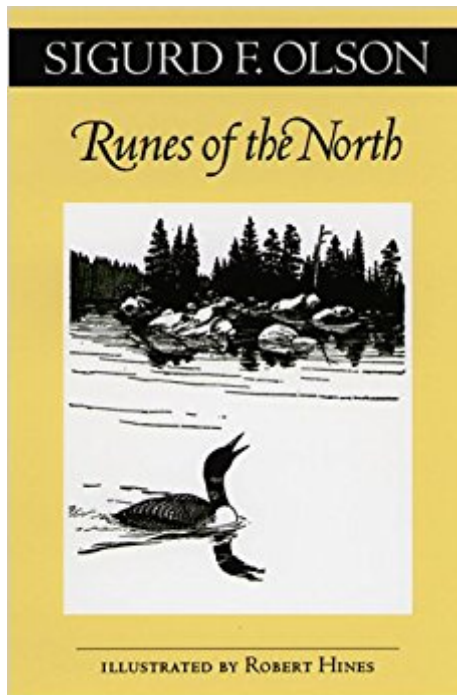


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Runes Of The North (Fesler-Lampert Minnesota Heritage)



Synopsis

In *Runes of the North* Sigurd Olson explores his feelings about the haunting appeal of the wilderness. He recounts how the legends of the northern vastness of Canada and Alaska have influenced him. In the introduction, Olson writes, "My runes have come from the wilderness, for in its solitude, silence, and freedom I know there are moments of insight when ancient truths do stand out more vividly, and one senses anew his relationship to the earth and to all life". *Runes of the North* explores these values, insights, and truths. Olson weaves the tales and myths with his own stories and experiences as an explorer, writer, grandfather, and biologist. "This inner world has to do with the wilderness from which we came", he writes, "timelessness, cosmic rhythms, and the deep feelings men have for an unchanged environment". Olson tells of Native American legends and traditions, like dream catchers and wild rice harvests, as well as the pure pleasure of the Finnish sauna. Each story portrays the special magic one finds in the wilderness and is filled with moments, that Olson writes, "are worth waiting for, and when they come in some unheralded instant of knowing, they are of the purest gold".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In *Runes of the North* Sigurd F. Olson explores the haunting appeal of the wilderness. He recounts how the legends of the northern vastness of Canada and Alaska have influenced him, weaving the tales and myths with his own stories and experiences as an explorer, writer, grandfather, and biologist. Now available in paperback for the first time, *Runes of the North* is a mystical and

reflective guide to the northern wilderness written with a oneness and communion with nature that is unique to Olson's pen. It is a work filled with beauty, wisdom, and renewal.

In preparation for and during a trip to the Upper Midwest, I read this and other Olson collections. Readers who expect a linear exegesis of the Canadian wilderness will be disappointed, since Olson did very little in a linear way. Rather, this is an impressionistic and rambling journey through Olson's experiences north and south of the border. He evokes the world of loons and lakes as no one else can; however, the reader can't help but come away with the impression that he found muskeg and tundra far less interesting, and certainly less visually stunning, than his beloved Quetico-Superior wilderness. There's almost nothing here on people, customs, or other aspects of life in the far Northwest; instead, you're just spending some hours, or days, with Siggy and his Kalevalistic prose. This isn't bad -- in fact, it's pleasurable -- but readers should be aware that the description of this book on is not the book you will actually read.

The best Boundary Waters/Quetico author.... a true land of beauty, mystique, Olson captures this spirit. Worth collecting. Go there, he'll be as good or better than all your pictures come winter.

We have been to Northern Minnesota, where this author has written several books. When you read them, they truly take you to the woods and the lakes of this beautiful area. I am sure that anyone will enjoy reading them but especially if you have had the opportunity to visit this wonderful and untouched area.

Both books arr'd as expected in good condition.

What I expected, thank you very much.

Interesting read, however each chapter is kinda a book of its own. I especially enjoyed the chapter on "Wild Rice" It's my first read of a book by Sigurd Olson. Will read more in the future.

Just an excellent book. Great stories

Great read!

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