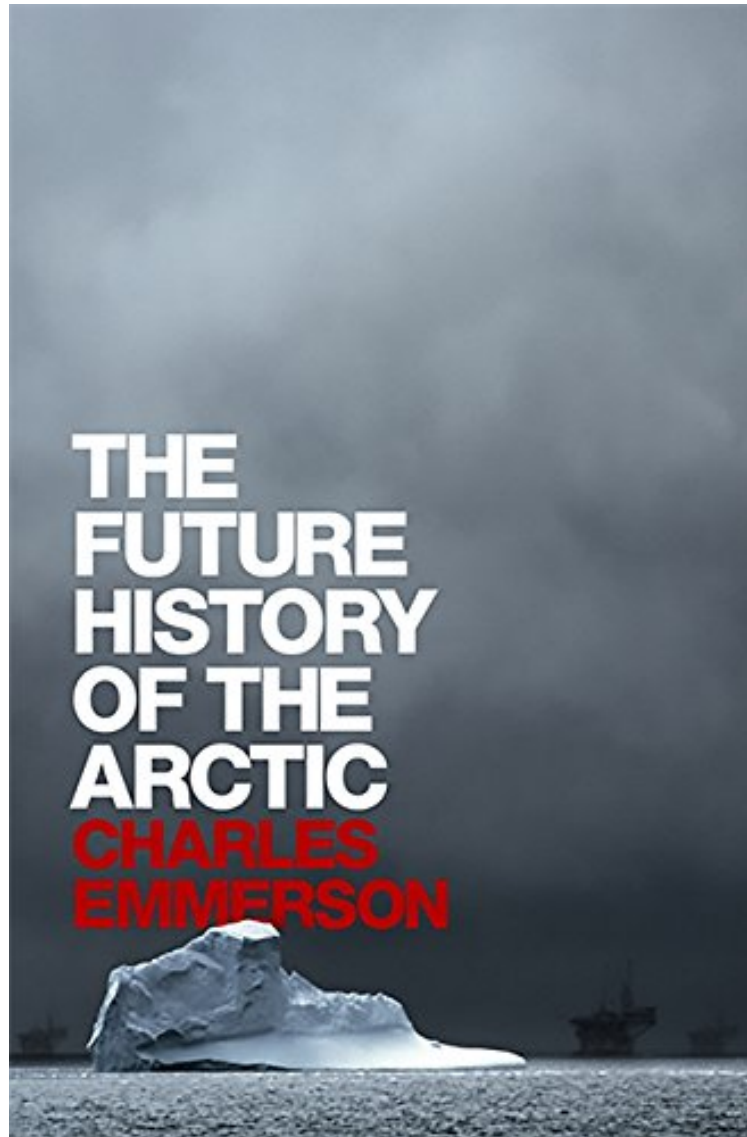


[FREE] The Future History of the Arctic

The Future History of the Arctic

Charles Emmerson

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Charles Emmerson : The Future History of the Arctic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Future History of the Arctic:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Poet Disguised as a National Security AnalystBy James G. WorkmanEmerson brings us into an evocative landscape -- correction, ice scape...no, better make that sea-scape that is both exciting and terrifying in its strategic and ecological import. Nothing against the arctic, but I have many places I'd rather travel to and understand before I die and now, thanks to Mr. Emerson (and Barry Lopez before him) I actually

feel like I've been there. This is a testament to his skills not only as a master of geopolitical affairs but as a storyteller. He introduces self-deprecating humor to serious situations. He brings touching insight to his interviews with people. He brings humility to the human affairs of poor communities in remote landscapes. *Future History of the Arctic* is, at its core, less about a cold analysis of strategic imperatives and fateful policy decisions than it is a story about the fears and aspirations of individuals, the ones who have, and will, and must make hard decisions, based on what they see as their own self interest. He succeeds to the extent that he makes their self interest our own. We become individuals who must weigh in on decisions, knowing they affect us all. We see the potential for the Arctic to become governed peacefully and carefully, much like its southern polar counterpart; we also see the potential for it to become a cold and depopulated global version of Somalia. Thanks to his narrative skill, Emerson does not push us in one direction or the other, he lets us find our way there on our own as his voice is seen nowhere and felt everywhere. A bravura accomplishment. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I like it By Camila Nader Great book! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. How we got to the now By dashore Extremely interesting from a historical perspective, but not one to keep me awake for late night reading. Will use it as a look-back reference for years.

Long at the margins of global affairs and at the edge of our mental map of the world, the Arctic has found its way to the center of the issues which will challenge and define our world in the twenty-first century: energy security and the struggle for natural resources, climate change and its uncertain speed and consequences, the return of great power competition, the remaking of global trade patterns. In *The Future History of the Arctic*, geopolitics expert Charles Emmerson weaves together the history of the region with reportage and reflection, revealing a vast and complex area of the globe, loaded with opportunity and rich in challenges. He defines the forces which have shaped the Arctic's history and introduces the players in politics, business, science and society who are struggling to mold its future. The Arctic is coming of age. This engrossing book tells the story of how that is happening and how it might happen through the stories of those who live there, those who study it, and those who will determine its destiny.

This book makes it clear that in the immediate future, as well as being an environmental barometer for the planet, the Arctic could also be a source of future political and military conflict. For pointing out these possibilities, this book deserves to be read. *The Guardian*