



# At the Ends of the Earth: A History Of The Polar Regions

*Kieran Mulvaney*

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"The story of the Arctic and Antarctic is of two regions quite unlike any other.... It is a story of interweaving cycles in which exploration leads to exploitation, and exploitation to further exploration. It is a story of how even such remote realms can significantly affect, and in turn be deeply influenced by, events and trends thousands of miles distant-of how the long shadow of humanity has extended, for better and for worse, to the very ends of the Earth." - from the Prologu.

For thousands of years, the polar regions have been a source of intrigue and fascination; even today-despite having been thoroughly mapped and explored, despite being home to permanent human settlements and scientific stations-they remain places of mystery. Remote, cold, barren, and inhospitable, they nonetheless exert an undeniable hold on the human imagination.

At the Ends of the Earth is an engrossing natural and human history of the two polar regions. In vivid and engaging prose, author Kieran Mulvaney presents the fascinating story of human interactions with the Arctic and Antarctic from prehistory through centuries of European exploration to more recent issues involving Cold War politics, oil and gas drilling, tourism, and global warming.

Beginning with the earliest myths and legends of undiscovered lands far to the north and south, Mulvaney offers an in-depth look at these two regions that are so similar yet so distinct. His compelling narrative brings to life the Arctic and Antarctic landscapes as well as the people who have explored, lived in, and exploited them. Stories of native Arctic peoples and the changes brought by the arrival of Europeans are contrasted with equally striking stories of Antarctic exploration and high-stakes battles over whether that vast continent should be exploited or protected.

Throughout, the author highlights both the direct and indirect impacts of human activity on polar landscapes, considering the ways in which these fragile and pristine environments represent a kind of miner's canary alerting us to the potentially irreparable changes we are wreaking on our global environment. At the Ends of the Earth offers a unique look at an intriguing facet of world history and provides an important context for understanding both successful and failed polar expeditions, as well as the motivations behind them.

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#### **Sylvia Healey:**

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the entire day to reading a book. The book At the Ends of the Earth: A History Of The Polar Regions it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book features high quality.

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