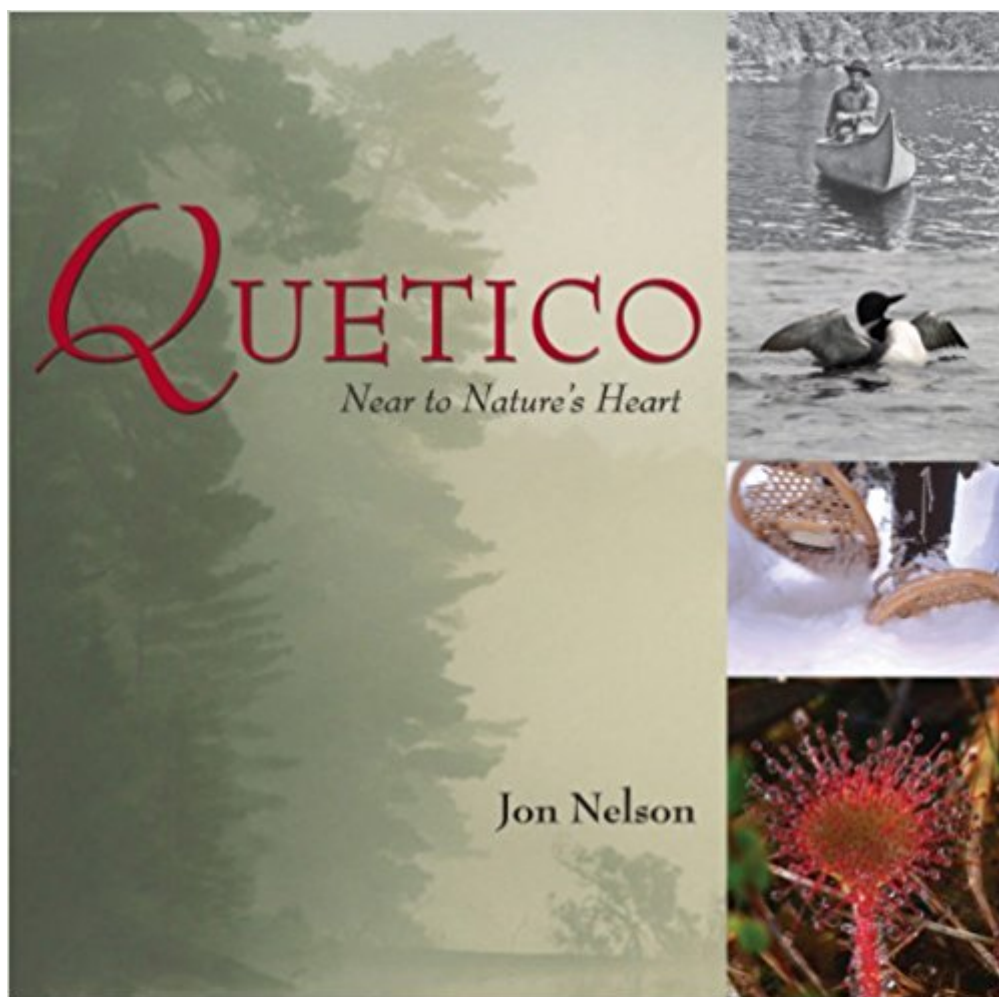


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Quetico: Near To Nature's Heart



Synopsis

Quetico Park in northwestern Ontario celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2009. Long-recognized as a gem among parks, Quetico contains some of the largest stands of old-growth red and white pine in Canada, as well as a diversity of fascinating lichens, carnivorous plants in specialized habitats. The author presents an insightful look into Quetico's natural history as he examines the adaptations that have allowed moose, white-tailed deer, wolves and other mammals to survive. The human history of the park is also explored, beginning with the Ojibwa living there when the area was designated as a park, followed by accounts of trappers, loggers, miners, park rangers, and poachers. Beginning with the retreat of the glaciers, the author combines his thorough research into Quetico's long and varied history with the threads of his own extensive involvement with the park. The result is a splendid tribute to a very special place.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Dundurn (May 18, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1554883962

ISBN-13: 978-1554883967

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,586,495 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Books > Travel > Canada > National Parks #1676 in Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Reference #1737 in Books > History > Americas > Canada

Customer Reviews

This beautiful text will delight those who already use the park, but it will also please all northern Ontarians since it offers insight to our past and imparts a desire to preserve this treasure in our midst....reading Quetico: Near to Nature's Heart is pleasurable. Nelson's voice comes through clearly and openly as if he had just sat down to speak to you personally.

Using thorough research, the author presents an insightful look into the natural history of Quetico Park, long recognized as a gem among parks.

We love the Boundary Waters, and we love this book!

Excellent description and photos of Quetico. Enjoyed reviewing it before giving it to someone who is more familiar with the area and loves it.

Great book for all the adventurers out there.

Having been to the Quetico on week-long canoe trips, I had many questions about the history, flora, fauna, geology, First People, etc. This book, brilliantly written, ties all of these diverse fields together in an amazing way. Who knew about the life of the small mammals in the tunnels beneath the winter snow? Or the teaming agreements that the parks personnel have with the First People? Or how the area went from glaciers to forests?

This is an easy-to-read book on Quetico Provincial Park, Ontario, written for a general reader. It is not a paddling guidebook. Neither is it a comprehensive guide to the nature of the park. However, the author's style to concentrate on some interesting topics probably works well for an average reader. Part 1 is about the glacial and human history of the region. In part 2, the author introduces five glacial-historically, culturally, botanically and ecologically interesting places in the park. Part 3 provides pieces of the animal and plant world, some of which are rather general (e.g. symbiosis). Common plant and animal names are used throughout the book. There is no table for the Latin names. There are a lot of color photos; the photos show the subjects under discussion, not beautiful lake vistas. A few maps are included, e.g. a general park map with the names of the most important lakes, and maps of glacier locations at different times.

I first paddled into Quetico Park, north of Minnesota's BWCA, when I was at camp before 9th grade. In the many years since then I have returned to this Ontario Park as it is truly as Jon Nelson describes 'Nature's Heart'. Nelson's book takes the reader back to Ice Age formations and the earliest inhabitants, on through first nations guardians of the land, voyageurs and those of us who paddle and portage into the home of current dwellers including 4 leggeds, those who crawl, swim and fly. Quetico- Near to Nature's Heart is a beautiful, informative and exciting read. This is my gift to friends and family this year for Christmas! I know that many of my friends have not been in Quetico Park but the rich and powerful view of North America's land and people is insightful to all of us who want to move beyond driving the freeways to experiencing the land, lichens, loons and the

spirituality of our land.Martha McManus

I absolutely loved this book. He goes into fascinating detail re: topics that are not often covered. Very informative with great pictures and easy-to-read prose.

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