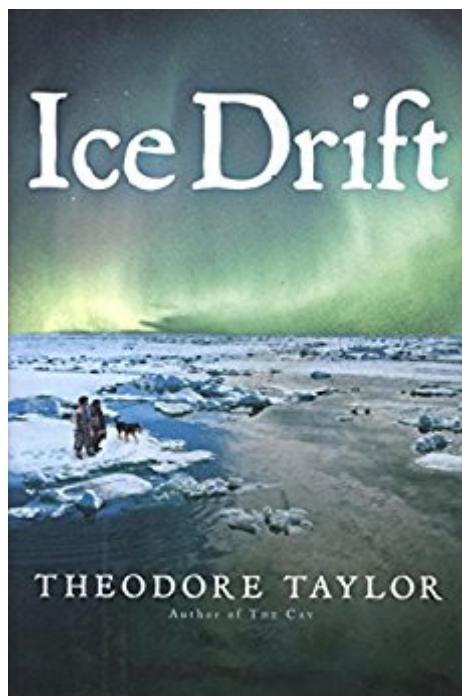


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# Ice Drift



## **Synopsis**

The year is 1868, and fourteen-year-old Alik and his younger brother, Sulu, are hunting for seals on an ice floe attached to their island in the Arctic. Suddenly the ice starts to shake, and they hear a loud crack--the terrible sound of the floe breaking free from land. The boys watch with horror as the dark expanse of water between the ice and the shore rapidly widens, and they start drifting south--away from their home, their family, and everything they've ever known. Throughout their six-month-long journey down the Greenland Strait, the brothers face bitter cold, starvation, and most frightening of all, vicious polar bears. But they still remain hopeful that one day they'll be rescued. This thrilling new adventure story from bestselling author Theodore Taylor is a moving testament to the bond between brothers--and to the strength of the human spirit. Includes a map, a glossary of Inuit words and phrases, and an author's note..

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

My son has absolutely loved this book! I got him this book as one of his Christmas gifts and he couldn't put it down. Also, the quality of how the book is made and holds up is excellent, considering

it is paperback!

My 9 year old found this book for his kindle and we read little bits every night. So far so good. Great character & story. Visual writing which we like to talk about different styles of writing. Can't wait to finish and take it all in. ;)

Read this on the recommendation of my grandson. A good read!

Arrived in great condition.

The item arrived with folded pages and my ten year old son wants a refund. He refused to read it until a week when I let him know I would reply to a review. He actually wanted me to return it but being a math wizard he did the calculation and realized it was not cost effective.

The year is 1868 close to the eve of the long winter darkness. Alika (14) and brother Sulu (10) along with their sledge dogs are hunting seal on an attached ice floe off Ellesmere Island in the Arctic Circle when an iceberg hits the floe, detaching it from the mainland. Remembering what someone had told him, Alika quickly unharnesses all but Jamka, the lead dog and pushes them over the side, hoping they will swim to shore and sound the alarm. Jamka is allowed to remain to help protect against polar bear (nanuk) encounters. Although the other dogs do get to shore and the boy's parents, Knussu and Maja search, they do not find the boys. Alika, Sulu and Jamka are on their own. Thankfully the sledge had been well stocked by Knussu and thanks to the ship, Reliance, breaking up in years past, Alika has a gun. How will the boys survive over the next several months as the floe heads south? More importantly, if they do survive, will they make it back home to Nanutak? It is not possible to go overland and this was WAY before the age of the plane! This is one amazing tale of survival in some of the harshest conditions in the world! Yes, it is fictional but is based on others experiences. Not only is it gripping, it is also very educational and informative and the reader will learn a lot about the customs of the Inuit, their spiritual beliefs, life in the Arctic, food eaten, work done in the light months, hunting etc. An Inuit glossary is provided at the end. **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!**

book Review online I think ice drift would interest people that like non-fiction books because it is a book with lots of things that happen in real life. I also think it would interest people that like books

with hunting or takes place in the Arctic because the book takes place in the Arctic and there is lots of hunting. I also think it is a good book for people who like adventures because Alika and Sulu get to have an adventure that some people don't even imagine having. Theodore Taylor (the writer of ice drift) has written over fifty books and has won twenty three medals. The first book he wrote was The Magnificent Mitscher. Ice drift is about two Inuit brothers Alika who is 14 and his brother Sulu who is 10. One day when they were seal hunting together a big chunk of ice they were on broke off and they started floating away. Alika and Sulu sent their dogs to get help. While they drifted south they caught seals and ran into bears. After Kussu, Alika and Sulu's dad, broke his leg Maja, their mom, went to find Alika and Sulu by herself.

Ice Drift, by Theodore Taylor, was an exciting adventure story of two brothers and their struggle for survival. It was October 1868, and fourteen-year-old Alika and his younger brother Sulu, who was ten, were fishing for seals on a floe of ice. All of a sudden an iceberg knocked their floe from shore. This was the beginning of the brothers' six month journey down the Greenland Strait. Theodore Taylor has a dog named Hydra so that was probably why he put the dog, Jamka, in the book. Also, one of his hobbies is fishing so he had Alika, Sulu, and Jamka fishing when the floe broke free from shore. Alika was one of the main characters I enjoyed reading about in the book. He was brave and would do anything for his little brother. He took care of his brother when he was sick and about to die, and he would always answer his annoying questions in a positive way. Alika was my favorite character because the brothers couldn't survive without him. He gathered all their food and acted very fatherly. This book wouldn't be as exciting if Sulu wasn't in it. When they were on the floe of ice, he acted as a reality check. He would always ask, "Will we die out here?" and "When will we be home?" Sulu would ask questions Alika thought were annoying, but I thought he was funny. I also thought the bond between the two brothers grew and became strong and unbreakable. Another character I loved was Maja, Alika and Sulu's mother. Her love for her sons was strong, and nobody could stop her from trying to rescue them. Kussu, the brothers' father, was loving and compassionate but didn't have the determination Maja had. Maja is just one reason to read this book. The characters demonstrated many survival skills and key qualities in this book. Some of them are knowledge, bravery, hunting skills, knowing how to gather water, knowing how to build a shelter for warmth, perseverance, and determination. Both Alika and Sulu have these qualities and many more. There are many parts I liked about this book. I enjoyed reading about the beliefs of the Inuit. They believed that there were spirits for everything in nature. I also liked learning about the Arctic and how cold it is there. Parts of this book were gripping, particularly the end. In the end I just

wouldn't put the book down because it was so exciting and tense. I stayed up really late at night, finishing the book. There were a couple of items I disliked about Ice Drift. At first, I didn't like how the scene switched from Alika, Sulu, and Jamka's life to Maja and Kussu's life. In the end, I realized why Theodore Taylor did that and I liked it. Since I loved the book so much I didn't like when the book ended. I wish it had kept going. I also didn't like how you could predict parts of the book since there were clues throughout the book. Overall, I still greatly enjoyed Ice Drift. This book took place in 1868-1869. Therefore, Alika, Sulu, and Jamka didn't have the same electronic items we have today. They didn't have a cell phone to call their parents when they were trapped on the floe of ice. They didn't own snowmobiles so they couldn't get around very fast. So, as you see, only parts of this book could take place today in the Arctic. Alika, Sulu, and Jamka were lost on a floe of ice floating in the Greenland Strait. I would encourage anybody to read this book. Can they be rescued? Will they survive the freezing cold and frostbite? Will they ever see their parents again? Will they survive starvation? If you want to find out, read this exciting adventure story.

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