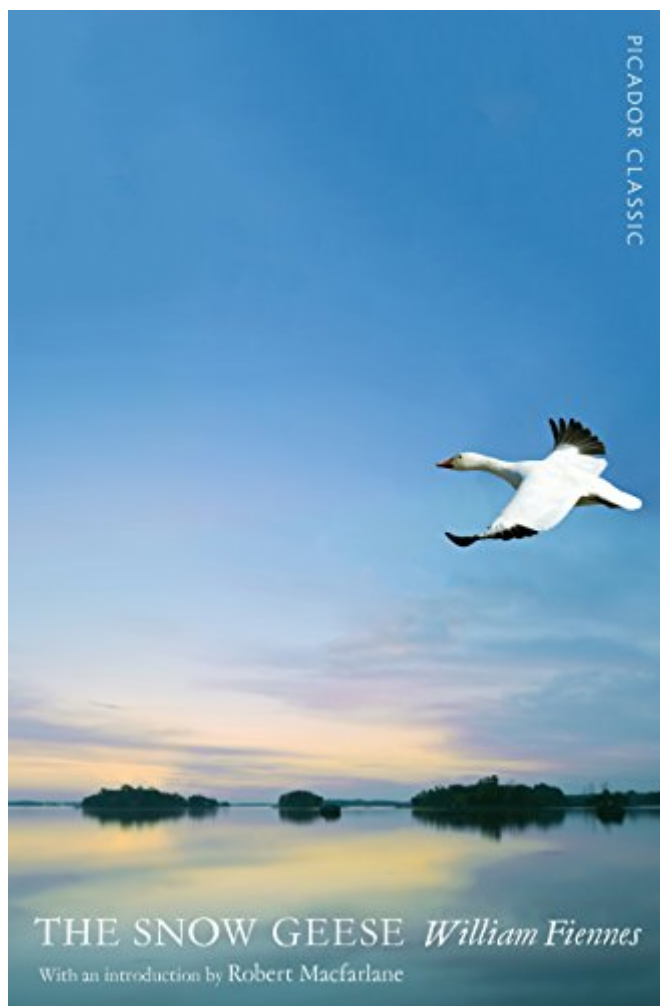The book was found

The Snow Geese: Picador Classic

Synopsis

With an introduction by Robert MacfarlaneShortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize and winner of the Hawthornden Prize.I had attached myself to the birds. I couldn't move on until the birds moved on, and the birds couldn't move on without the spring.One winter, after an enforced period of recuperation, William Fiennes finds himself restless and yearning for adventure. He travels to Texas, where he begins a quest to trace the million-strong flocks of snow geese making their spring flight thousands of miles north to the Arctic tundra. On his epic journey he meets people from every walk of life, from ex-nuns to train fanatics, and their stories resound with the longing to arrive at the right place in the world.Shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize and winner of the Hawthornden Prize, The Snow Geese is a poignant and lyrical paean to the richness and wonder of the world around us. A unique blend of autobiography, travel and nature writing, this is a classic tale of belonging and the inescapable lure of home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was a joy to read and was filled with intricate knowledge and curiosity about the geese

and their migration as well as an exquisitely detailed account of the passion of one man to journey wth these birds and along the way to discover interesting and kindly folk.

Received in great condition in timely manner and followup to be sure I got what I wanted when I needed it was excellent. Story is fascinating as well. All around a good deal!

This book will entertain those who enjoy travel memoirs, natural history-lite, and don't mind long forays into description and philosophy.This nonfiction book was inspired by Paul Gallico's, "The Snow Goose" (1940). The author begins with a recollection of this story and then briefly describes his protracted illness at the age of 25 with an illness. After returning to his family home to recover Fiennes decides to take a journey to trace the snow goose's spring migration. Starting in Austin, Texas, and tracing the flight of birds in rental cars, greyhound busses, and Canadian trains he arrives at Baffin Island where the birds have their summer mating and foraging grounds.Describing the migratory pattern of snow geese could be a straightforward and dry narrative, but intertwined with the geese's journey is Fiennes's personal homeward journey propelled by the people he meets along the way and seemingly the philosophical musings sprinkled throughout the book. An example of the tangential flights of fancy which the author takes is that of homesickness. First drawing on those who first identified and defined homesickness as a malady, and then expanding with literary illustrations such as "The Odyssey," Fiennes describes his feeling of homesickness. Unfortunately the connection between homesickness and seasonal bird migration is not made, nor can it be really.The description of people and places in this book are detailed. Sometimes too much so. Since the people described are frequently peripheral to the story, fellow passengers on the bus or train, the story sometimes loses focus. The natural scenes in contrast are more apt and so the detail is not begrudged: "There were hills and swales in all directions, drawing away on the curve of the sphere, and clouds massing in the south, above the sea" (p. 240). The combination of natural description, and the description of all people encountered joined with the personal rumination of the author makes for an odd amalgamation of literary genres.

The Snow Geese: Picador Classic The Snow Geese The Bridesmaids: True Tales of Love, Envy, Loyalty . . . and Terrible Dresses (Picador True Tales) Into the Heart of Borneo (Picador Travel Classics) Middle Passage Impressions of Five Socie (Picador Travel Classics) Maps (Picador Books) The Road to Oxiana (Picador Books) Snow Sense: A Guide to Evaluating Snow Avalanche Hazard Storey's Illustrated Guide to Poultry Breeds: Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Emus,

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