



## Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World

By Jennifer Owings Dewey

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**Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World** By Jennifer Owings Dewey

It is the windiest, coldest, most forbidding region on earth, and I am heading straight for it.

Sketchbook in hand, an artist leaves home to spend four months in Antarctica. She hikes up glaciers, camps on deserted islands, and sees mirages of castles in the air. She sails past icebergs and humpback whales. And she fills her sketchbook with drawings of penguin chicks huddled in their nests and seals basking in the sun. Jennifer Dewey's sketches, photographs, journal entries, and letters home let you see the last great wilderness on earth through the eyes of an artist at work.

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## Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World By Jennifer Owings Dewey Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Imagine if you were given a grant by the National Science Foundation to spend four months in Antarctica to sketch, take pictures, and write home to friends and family. *Antarctic Journal* is the record of Jennifer Owings Dewey's trek to the bottom of the world: "a planet as remote as the moon in its own way," she writes. Antarctica, home to 100 million penguins, has ice up to three miles thick, covering 98 percent of the land. The author writes her account of this icy-cold adventure at Palmer Station in an accessible journal, sprinkled with letters home and colored-pencil sketches and photographs of various landscapes and Arctic creatures. Discussions of penguin behavior are interrupted by the history of Gondwanaland and continental drift, while snippets about trying to cook krill (the tiny phytoplankton that blue whales eat) in garlic and butter add a comic and personal touch to her adventure. Descriptions of the "green flash" that happens just before sunset, red tide, and a mirage effect called the "fata morgana" (named after the fairy Morgan who built castles in the air) are sure to intrigue and inspire young explorers. This is a charming, personable introduction to a forbidding, fascinating continent. (Ages 8 to 12) --*Karin Snelson*

#### From School Library Journal

Grade 3-6-Readers get a glimpse of an artist's four-month stay in Antarctica through her sketches and photos, journal entries, and letters home. Her personal experiences (having Adelie penguins examine her typewriter, falling into a crevasse on a glacier) are interspersed with facts about the history, landforms, weather, and life of Antarctica. The combination of softly colored sketches and photos is effective, although the photos are small and some lack crispness. A great deal of fascinating information is included in the text, which flows easily from fact bites to narrative. The book is similar to Sophie Webb's *My Season with Penguins: An Antarctic Journal* (Houghton, 2000). Both artists spent one season in Antarctica learning, sketching, and writing. Both mix fact with personal experience. Because Webb is also a scientist and her interest is penguins, her book has a tighter focus. Dewey's title gives more general information about the continent. (Webb's book is assigned to the 500s; Dewey's to the 900s.) Neither title has an index, and, although both are short enough for researchers to skim, they are both meant to be read cover to cover. Libraries already owning Webb's book will want to consider *Antarctic Journal* as well because of its broader scope. Fans of Antarctica will want to read both.

*Ellen Heath, Orchard School, Ridgewood, NJ*

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#### From Booklist

Gr. 4-6. Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation, this award-winning children's writer and illustrator spent four months at Palmer Station on Anvers Island in Antarctica. Her warm, thoughtful travel diary chronicles not only her observations in text and art but also her fears and feelings as she explores the strange frosty environment where the sun never sets. One small thing detracts from this well-written, eye-opening book: a number of passages are addressed to T or B or S, but there's no information about who these people are. Despite the tiny unsolved mystery, this is a remarkable read. *Kelly Halls*

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### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Galen Dent:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a book. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World. Try to stumble through book Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World as your close friend. It means that it can to be your friend when you feel alone and beside those of course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortuned for you. The book makes you much more confidence because you can know everything by the book. So , let us make new experience and knowledge with this book.

**Nathan Ramsey:**

Reading a book tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only the story that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the information about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to the book. One of them is this Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World.

**Helen Williams:**

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read any book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent all day long to reading a reserve. The book Antarctic Journal: Four Months at the Bottom of the World it is quite good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book has high quality.

**Dennis Bales:**

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