Early Warming

"An eloquent and important dispatch." —*Kirkus Reviews*

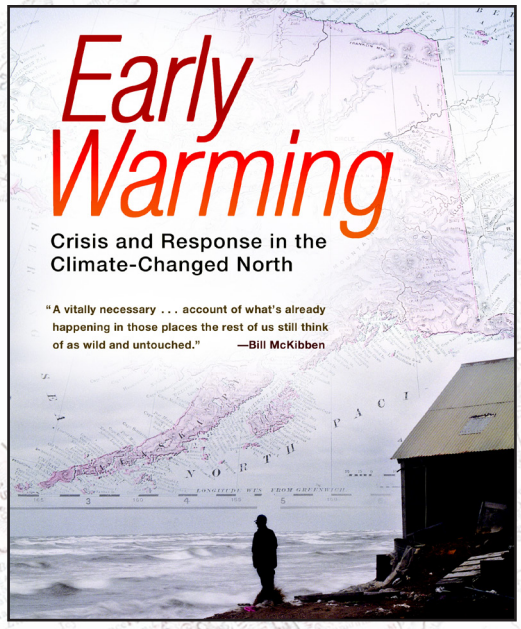
"Here's the up-to-the-second report from the scout furthest out along the front lines. Nancy Lord combines her knowledge and her love of the North to give us a vitally necessary, and in places hauntingly beautiful, account of what's already happening in those places the rest of us still think of as wild and untouched." **—Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature and Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet***

"EARLY WARMING is the most important book I've read all year. If you read only one climate change book, read this one. No statistical projections into the future, no doom, no gloom—no debate—just perfectly told stories of northern people who are right now struggling to bear their grief and reinvent their lives as forests die and burn, school buildings wash away, and the once-frozen ground gives way beneath their feet." **—Kathleen Dean Moore, author of *Wild Comfort***

For most of us, global warming is an abstract problem, the effects of which remain safely distant from day-to-day life. In EARLY WARMING, the powerful new book by Alaska Writer Laureate Nancy Lord, global warming gets a human face. Lord looks at communities in the North, where global warming is amplified and climate change effects are most immediate. Every day, these people witness the very real effects of global warming and have responded with both urgency and creativity.

This beautifully written and measured narrative takes us deep into regions where the people who face life-threatening change also demonstrate impressive conservation ethics and adaptive capacities. In Shishmaref, Alaska, new seawalls are going up while residents navigate the many practical and bureaucratic obstacles to moving their entire island village to higher ground. Farther south, inland hunters and fishermen set out to grow more of their own food—and to support the reintroduction of wood bison, an ancient species well suited to expected habitat changes. First Nations people of Canada team with conservationists to protect land for both local use and environmental resilience. Underpinned by Lord's long acquaintance with the North and backed with scientific and political sophistication, EARLY WARMING brings the challenges awaiting all of us into ice-water clarity.

Historian, naturalist and award-winning writer Nancy Lord is a longtime resident of Homer, Alaska, and has authored three short fiction collections (most recently The Man Who Swam with Beavers, Coffee House Press, 2001) and four books of literary nonfiction (most recently Rock, Water, Wild: An Alaskan Life, University of Nebraska Press, 2009). You can find out more about Nancy Lord and EARLY WARMING at http://www.nancylord.alaskawriters.com/



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