



# On the Run in Siberia

*Rane Willerslev*

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*If I had let myself be ruled by reason alone, I would surely be lying dead somewhere or another in the Siberian frost.*

The Siberian taiga: a massive forest region of roughly 4.5 million square miles, stretching from the Ural Mountains to the Bering Sea, breathtakingly beautiful and the coldest inhabited region in the world. Winter temperatures plummet to a bitter 97 degrees below zero, and beneath the permafrost lie the fossilized remains of mammoths, woolly rhinoceroses, and other ice age giants. For the Yukaghir, an indigenous people of the taiga, hunting sable is both an economic necessity and a spiritual experience—where trusting dreams and omens is as necessary as following animal tracks. Since the fall of Communism, a corrupt regional corporation has monopolized the fur trade, forcing the Yukaghir hunters into impoverished servitude.

Enter Rane Willerslev, a young Danish anthropologist who ventures into this frozen land on an idealistic mission to organize a fair-trade fur cooperative with the hunters. From the outset, things go terribly wrong. The regional fur company, with ties to corrupt public officials, proves it will stop at nothing to maintain its monopoly: one of Willerslev's Yukaghir business partners is arrested on spurious charges of poaching and illegal trading; another drowns mysteriously. When police are sent to arrest him, Willerslev fears for his life, and he and a local hunter flee to a remote hunting lodge even deeper in the icy wilderness. Their situation turns even more desperate right away: they manage to kill a moose but lose the meat to predators and begin to starve, frostbitten and isolated in the frozen taiga.

Thus begins Willerslev's extraordinary, chilling tale of one year living in exile among Yukaghir hunters in the stark Siberian taiga region. At turns shocking and quietly moving, *On the Run in Siberia* is a pulse-pounding tale of idealism, political corruption, starvation, and survival (with a timely assist from Vladimir Putin) as well as a striking portrait of the Yukaghirs' shamanistic tradition and their threatened way of life, a drama unfolding daily in one of the world's coldest, most enthralling landscapes.

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The actual book On the Run in Siberia has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was published by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research just before write this book. This particular book very easy to read you will get the point easily after looking over this book.

#### **Harold Hutchison:**

On the Run in Siberia can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to put every word into pleasure arrangement in writing On the Run in Siberia however doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource information that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial imagining.

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