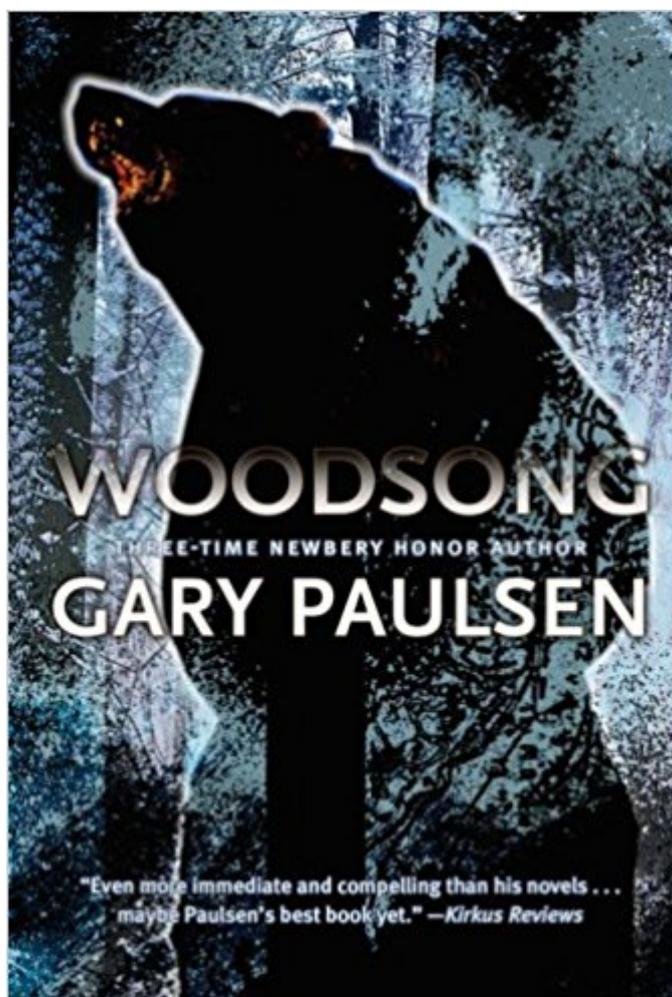


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Synopsis

A LIFE AS EXCITING AS FICTION Gary Paulsen, three-time Newbery Honor author, is no stranger to adventure. He has flown off the back of a dogsled and down a frozen waterfall to near disaster, and waited for a giant bear to seal his fate with one slap of a claw. He has led a team of sled dogs toward the Alaskan Mountain Range in an Iditarod -- the grueling, 1,180-mile dogsled race -- hallucinating from lack of sleep, but he determined to finish. Here, in vivid detail, Paulsen recounts several of the remarkable experiences that shaped his life and inspired his award-winning writing. A School Library Journal Best Book A Booklist Editors' Choice

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 214 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #25,525 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Iditarod & Dog-Sledding](#) #1 in [Books > Teens > Sports & Outdoors > Winter Sports](#) #4 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Winter Sports](#)

Customer Reviews

According to PW , this "autobiographical celebration of Paulsen's longtime love of dogsledding and sled dogs . . . blends deep introspection with fast-paced action and succeeds admirably on both levels." Ages 12-up. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 6 Up?Natural phenomena, chilling experiences, and exhilarating adventure are all part of Paulsen's personal recollections of his induction into sled-dog training and racing. Fluent, spare memoirs of one man's initiation, education, and unabashed awe of the wilderness and its inhabitants. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The number one item on my bucket list is to go to Alaska and see the beginning of the Iditarod dog sled race. Next month, I will be able to cross that off the list as that is exactly what I am going to do. While looking around the Iditarod website, I noticed that they recommended this book for people interested in dog sledding. I had read *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod* previously by this same author and it is one of my favorite books of all time so I immediately downloaded this one. It is a relatively short book and is divided into two sections. The first section is a bit about his personal history and how his growing-up years really revolved around nature and engaging in out-door activities. He also explains how he moved from being a very active hunter to someone who has decided he will never hunt another living creature again. As he got older, he developed a fascination with dogs and was intrigued by dog sledding and started dabbling a bit in the sport. I will warn folks that there are some very descriptive passages about animals hunting other animals. While this is just part of nature and to be expected, if you are thinking of allowing a youngster to read this, you may want to glance at it before you do so. Some younger folks might be very upset by the events. The second half of the book is a day-by-day account chronically of his first Iditarod run. Each day is about 2 or 3 pages long and talks about what happened that day and what misadventures occurred. With my interest in the Iditarod, I found the second half to be more interesting to me but I still very much appreciated his sharing of his story and how he found himself participating in one of the most challenging events currently held. Well worth a read for fans of Mr. Paulsen and well worth a read for anyone interested in dog sledding. While I still prefer *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod*, this was good and I am so happy I purchased it.

This is a very good book. I found myself laughing out loud in the park where I was reading. I would suggest it for anyone who enjoys reading a serious/funny book

I've read this book a number of times, and I always get something new out of it. For anyone that sometimes dreams of the value of a more primitive lifestyle, or who has long suspected that the company of their dog is superior to other options, this book is a must read. Gary Paulsen's voice is down-home, easy to read, fun to listen to; the slightly odd, but ever-so-interesting Uncle at Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner wearing his best flannel shirt and suspenders.

A GREAT, autobiographical book by Gary Paulsen. Paulsen is very popular among middle school boys who are reluctant readers. This book (in particular) along with *Hatchet* are books that the students in

my classes like.

My 12 year old son is a fan of Gary Paulsen and gave me this book to read. If you are a dog lover, nature lover, or have an interest in Alaskan sled dog racing, read this! If you read his other book "My Life In Dog Years" first, you will definitely have a tough time reading about his beloved dogs without crying! I would recommend his books to young readers, as well as adults.

We purchased the entire series of Mr. Paulsen's books. Our book worm tween loved the story! You won't be disappointed.

Loved the book never wanted to stop read Gary Paulsen is a great author. There were some parts that are very interesting and some not so much but it keeps going. But is a all around great book

I sent this book. To my grandson for his birthday and he loved it. Arrived on time which is also great

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