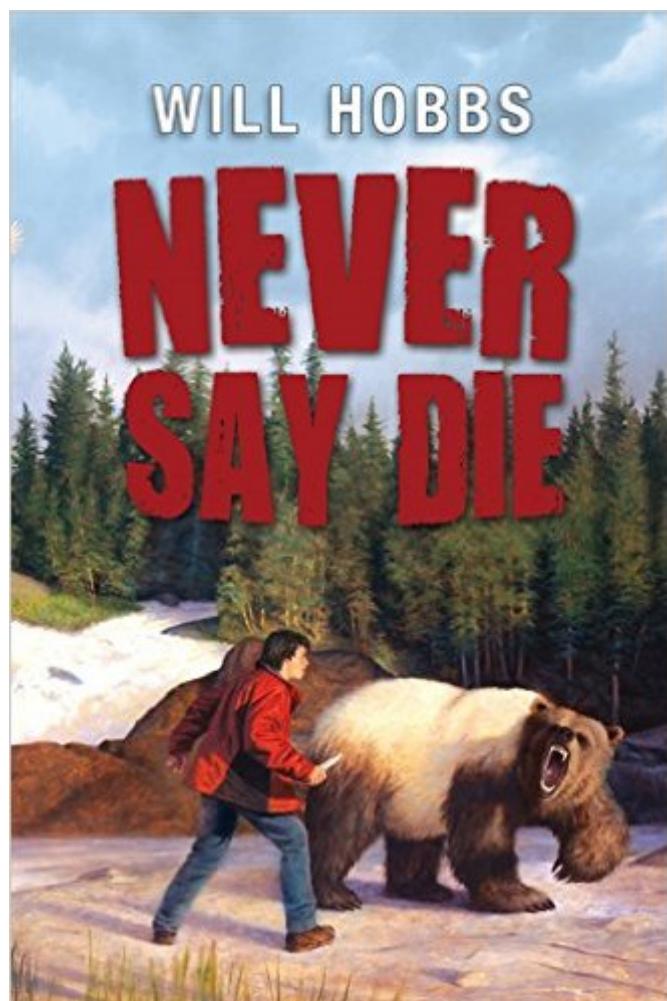


The book was found

Never Say Die



Synopsis

In this fast-paced adventure story set in the Canadian arctic, fifteen-year-old Inuit hunter Nick Thrasher comes face-to-face with a fearsome creature on a routine caribou hunt gone wrong. Part grizzly, part polar bear, this environmental mutant has been pegged the "œgrolar bear" by wildlife experts. Nick may have escaped this time, but it won't be his last encounter. Then Nick's estranged half-brother, Ryan, offers to take him on a rafting trip down a remote part of the Firth River. But when disaster strikes, the two narrowly evade death. They're left stranded without supplies and then the grolar bear appears. Will Hobbs brings his singular style to this suspenseful story about two brothers fighting for survival against the unpredictable and sometimes deadly "whims of nature.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 770 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (May 13, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061708801

ISBN-13: 978-0061708800

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.2 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #416,142 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Canada #537 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #922 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bears

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Will Hobbs Never Say Die, is an excellent if fairly short read. Though this is the first time I have read Mr. Hobbs work it will not be the last, the story was well written and informative as well. We start out with young Nick Thrasher part white and part Inuit, though Nick does all he can to forget his white heritage until the day he receives a letter from his half brother in Arizona known about but never have met. Nick learns Ryan is a photographer wanting to travel down the Firth and see if they can

see any large herds of Caribou as they migrate. Nick thinks the whole idea is crazy and there are no great herds any more. Jonah, Nicks grandfather and world thinks it would be a good idea for Nick to go, to learn of his brother and to see the great herd if it is there, the ones Jonah remembers from his younger days. So Nick agrees and starts off on an adventure full of learning and danger. Nick recently has had a brush with some kind of bear he learns they are calling a grolar bear, part Grizzly part polar bear. As Ryan and Nick learn of one another and about one another as Ryan is from the belief of prove it with science and Nick's belief coming from living off the land and learning to live with the land. The two have much to share and learn as they embark on an adventure of a life time. This story was great from middle school boys or anyone that enjoys a great outdoor story. It is a mixture of fact and fiction one of learning to survive and learning that man has brought havoc to the world around him and nature has her own way of turning the tide. The hybrid bear in this story is real as is the changing weather in the arctic all caused by climate change.

One thing that bothered me about this book was that the author obviously didn't know much about nature. This was confirmed in the Author's Note at the end, which indicated that all the knowledge he had about the book's setting was based on one or two vacations he took there. Perhaps this wasn't such a big deal, but I had just finished reading a book by Gary Paulsen, who was born and raised in the forest with little to no outside contact for most of his life. He based the events in "Hatchet" almost exclusively on his own experiences. As you have probably already guessed, I totally recommend Paulsen's books. I cannot say the same for Will Hobbs' "Never Say Die." I almost never skip through sections of a story, but at least two thirds (if not more) of this book was spent on detailing the horrors of global warming. I really do not mind reading people's opinions on political issues, and I was halfway through the book before I really realized how excessive it was getting. The main character's brother is a photographer who wants to write a magazine article about climate change in the arctic. I thought that was great at first, liking the idea of a reporter who was dedicated enough to travel across the world in order to get the information himself. I didn't realize that twice as much information about global warming research would be crammed into the book than would ever be allowed in an actual article. All of it took the form of awkward, forced dialog. The plot also had a heavy political lean to it. ***Spoilers in this paragraph*** The main character does not bring his rifle along due to the quickly-adopted belief that shooting an animal is wrong.

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