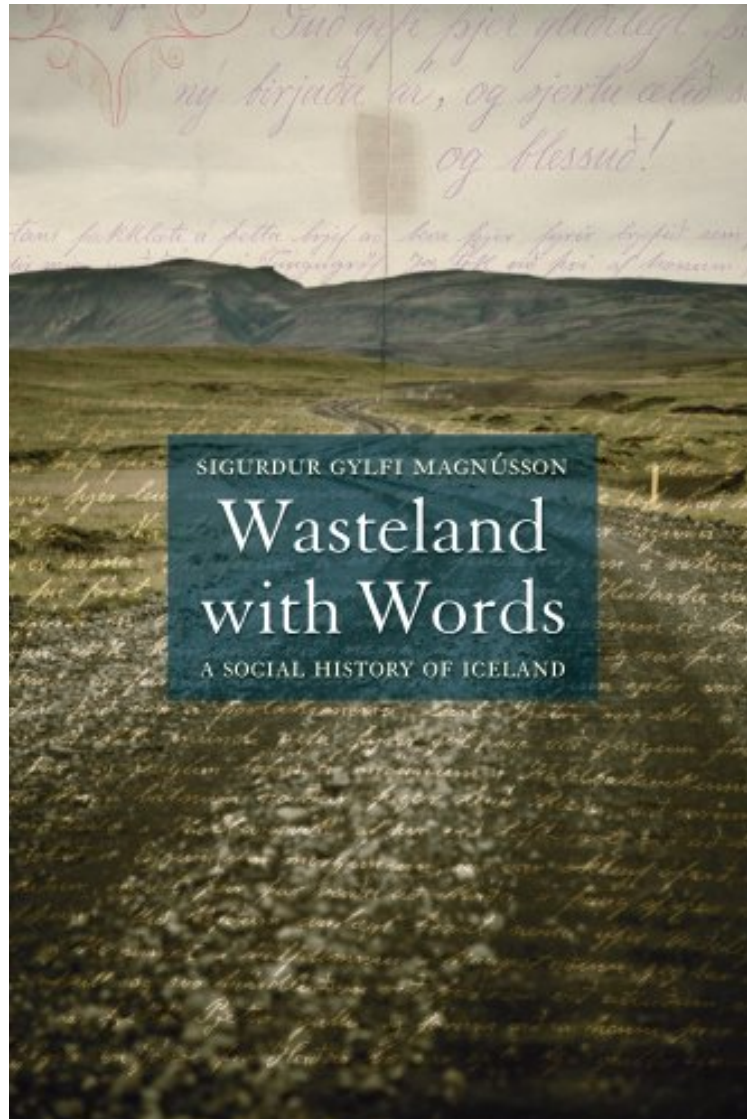


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Wasteland with Words: A Social History of Iceland

Von Sigurdur Gylfi Magnsson

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Von Sigurdur Gylfi Magnsson : Wasteland with Words: A Social History of Iceland before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wasteland with Words: A Social History of Iceland:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. To be readVon D. TrodlerThis book is not only written in a fine, exciting style - the content is absolutely fascinating and keeps you on reading till the very last page.For those foreigners who try to live in Iceland and probably get desperate about a certain kind of disinterest or coldness it might give explanations from history and helps to understand why

things are so different here. Each plenty has its history - and each poverty, too. Excellent work, thank you so much, Sigurdur! 0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Social History of Iceland Von Haio Dieses Buch haben wir als Geschenk gekauft und damit eine große Freude ausgelöst. Von daher ist der Artikel als sehr gut zu bewerten. Die Lieferung war prompt!

Kurzbeschreibung Iceland appears to many a country shrouded in mystery and legend, and marked by contradiction: a part of Europe, and yet separated from it by the Atlantic Ocean; seemingly inhospitable, and yet home to more than 300,000 souls. *Wasteland with Words* explores the evolution and transformation of Icelandic society and culture, investigating the literary and historical factors that created the rich cultural heritage enjoyed by Icelanders today. Sigurdur Gylfi Magnússon presents a wide-ranging and detailed analysis of the island's history, examining how a nineteenth-century economy based on the industries of fishing and agriculture one of the poorest in Europe grew to become a disproportionately large economic power in the late twentieth century, while retaining its strong sense of cultural identity. The recent economic and political collapse of the country is also assessed, in the light of the historical development of the island. With a focus on the lives of individual Icelanders throughout, the book seeks to chart the vast changes in this country's history through the impact and effect on the Icelandic people themselves. *Wasteland with Words* is a comprehensive study of the island's social and historical development, from tiny fishing settlements to a global economic power. It will appeal to anyone interested in or studying this most enigmatic of islands, and also to those interested in cultural and social history as a whole. *Pressestimmen* 'Magnússon narrates a well-timed history of Iceland through the lives of ordinary people and local communities in a pointillist style that evokes a rich heritage. He shows how a localised barter economy, based in fishing and agriculture, became a financial system with a global strategy that fatally overreached itself with embarrassing international political and financial consequences. The dust has yet to settle.' - *The Times* '[a] combination of cultural depth and material backwardness is the central message of Sigurdur Gylfi Magnússon's social history of one of Europe's smallest and remotest countries ... This book, drawing on Icelanders' astonishingly detailed diaries and letters in past centuries, gives the outsider a rare glimpse into the past lives of an extraordinary people.' - Edward Lucas, *The Economist* 'Magnússon's ambitious work provides a unique perspective on the development of Iceland's cultural heritage ... an unflinching look into Iceland's past through the literary legacy of many average Icelanders and attempts to construct a clearer picture of the development of Iceland's culture and educational past ... well researched and full of rich resources, the book provides unique insight into a truly unparalleled country and culture, not found in many works available to English readers ... an important work. Highly recommended.' - *Choice* 'an intimate and personal history of Iceland ... Anyone planning to travel to Iceland will find that this well-written book offers a valuable background on the island's unique social and cultural history.' - *Sydney Morning Herald* 'an indispensable book for everyone who is interested in the history of Iceland. It is a highly informative piece of solid scholarly work, with a clear methodology and it is simply very well written. Finally, just a word of praise about the superior choice of illustrations throughout the book and the highly informative captions that accompany them.' - *Tijdschrift voor Skandinavistiek* 'a very welcome addition to the small number of books about Iceland's modern history available in English. The few other works on modern Icelandic history are largely written in Icelandic for local consumption. This means that the rest of the world is largely starved of any broader or deeper understanding of Iceland beyond the headline-grabbing activities of its bankers and volcanoes ... as an introduction to 19th- and 20th-century Icelandic history it is excellent.' - *s in History* 'An unusual approach to social history, with the emphasis on the last two centuries but looking back also to earlier periods, this study is impressive methodologically and conceptually and has much to offer those working on the social history of other countries. Good in its range which includes cultural history. Fascinating range of sources.' - *The Historian* '[Magnússon] tells the story of Iceland from the bottom up, through examples culled from diaries, newspapers, and the histories of particular families. He avoids discussing the ceremonial and official. He has read an amazing number of Icelandic autobiographies. His writing is fluid, lithe and informal.' - *The Grapevine*, Iceland Kurzbeschreibung Iceland appears to many a country shrouded in mystery and legend, and marked by contradiction: a part of Europe, and yet separated from it by the Atlantic Ocean; seemingly inhospitable, and yet home to more than 300,000 souls. *Wasteland with Words* explores the evolution and transformation of Icelandic society and culture, investigating the literary and historical factors that created the rich cultural heritage enjoyed by Icelanders today. Sigurdur Gylfi Magnússon presents a wide-ranging and detailed analysis of the island's history, examining how a nineteenth-century economy based on the industries of fishing and agriculture one of the poorest in Europe grew to become a disproportionately large economic power in the late twentieth century, while retaining its strong sense of cultural identity. 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