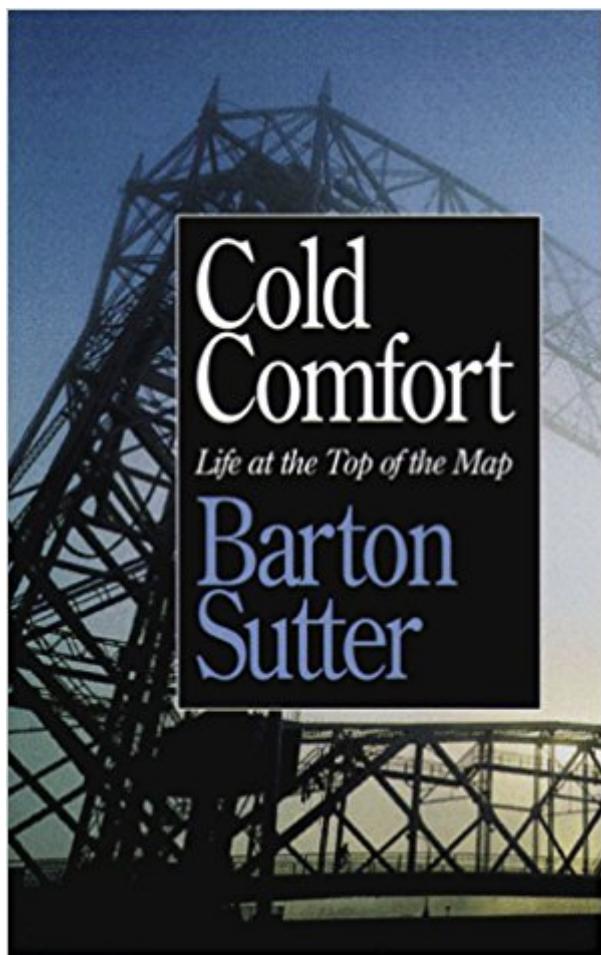


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# Cold Comfort: Life At The Top Of The Map



## **Synopsis**

Temperatures that dive to forty degrees below zero are only part of life in northern Minnesota, according to award-winning writer Barton Sutter. *Cold Comfort* is his temperamental tribute to the city of Duluth, where bears wander the streets and canoe racks are standard equipment. With humor and passion, Sutter pays homage to the haunting beauty of this lopsided city perched on the shore of Lake Superior, reporting the quirks and joys of daily life in this far-flung outpost and its environs. "Although the summers are dangerously seductive", Sutter writes, "we are saved, up here on the northern rim, by our crummy economy; by our practical, unfashionable clothes; but most of all by the cold -- the ferocious, unfathomable cold. As Duluthians like to say, it keeps the riffraff out". These short essays -- first heard on public radio -- will be popular with readers because of Sutter's intriguing stories, sense of humor, and musical language. He extols the pleasures of barbershops, cross-country skiing with a seven-year-old, and living by the great lake. *Cold Comfort* unlocks the secrets of Duluth, bridging the communal spirit of small-city life and the solitude, silence, and serenity of the wilderness next door. "As a nation of immigrants, many of us suffer from a vague but painful homesickness we do not understand", he writes. With a voice that is at once sorrowful, soul-searching, and hilarious, Sutter cures that ill by sharing his passion for and faith in his rugged locale. Like a lovers' quarrel with a peculiar place, *Cold Comfort* conveys deep insights about what makes the place where you live your true home.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

My father's ancestors came from the Duluth area and northwestern Minnesota. My grandfather

worked his entire life in the shipyard. I left Minnesota 25 years ago. A catastrophic injury three years ago brought us back into Minnesota as we traveled to Mayo Clinic monthly to get repaired. We are near retirement age now and have decided to move back to Minnesota, and to make Duluth our permanent home. I ordered this book several months ago. It was very thoughtful and touching to read. I ordered copies for both of our sons. I thoroughly enjoyed each of the essays and derived much from having read them. I came from a time period, and an area of the country, where real things still matter and the "little pleasures in life" are what are most enjoyable. I loved this book. It did good for my soul. Signed: Mrs. Steven Lien

This book was an excellent read for me partly because the author's father was our pastor in the tiny town we lived close to as teenagers. It was also interesting because we spent 3 years in Duluth at summer school and experienced many of the same things. Mainly I found Barton very witty and he made me look at things in a different way than I usually would. I read two stories each night until I finished the book. It was a perfect book to end the day with.

I am from Duluth, MN. This is such a neat book to read for anyone from MN or the Midwest. Brings back memories. Thanks.

wonderful writer, really gives you the feel of living in Duluth, Minnesota. I want to read more of his work.

This book made me miss Duluth so much I cried while I read it. I talked about it in book club yesterday, then came home and made motel reservations the end of May in a place very near the bridge. I can't wait to see it again!

I've taken this book with me on a few long trips overseas and it always makes me homesick.

This book is really helpful for someone making a quilt for a child. I made 3 quilts for this book. You will like it.

Sutter describes the attitude of the Duluthians dead-on, proud of the climate and the effect it has on the citizens, and the in-your-face weather and power of the lake. The stories are sprinkled with dry Scandinavian humor. He passes through the seasons and reflections of his life with the clear,

harsh beauty of the city and the Lake. Reminds of the depressing joy of a bright, clear -20F February morning. You'd know what I mean if you lived here...and if you don't? Let Barton Sutter fill you in!

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