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BOOK INFORMATION SHEET (2.23.24)

Author (as it should appear on the book): Nancy Libson

Title: *Children in Iceland*

Subtitle: [none]

Contributor: Afterword by Kristín Helga Gunnarsdóttir

Partner: Published in association with the Center for the Study of Place

Book pages: 96

Number and type of illustrations: 47 color photographs by the author

Trim size: 11.0" x 9.0" landscape/horizontal

List price: \$40.00

Discount: trade

ISBN (book): 978-1-938086-52-6

ISBNs (electronic): TBD

Edition: Hardcover

E-book? TBD

Interactive e-book? N.A.

Jacket: Yes

Edition size: 800

Publication date: May 2024

Advances due: March 2024

To warehouse: April 2024

Printed in: Singapore

Distributor: Casemate/IPM

Bookstore categories (list three): Photography/Iceland/Childhood

Audience: Tourists to and residents of Iceland will love the subject, photos, and text and appreciate the bilingual edition; those interested in the Arctic (especially Iceland), and those who live there; and those who are interested in childhood and family life.

Selling points (list three): This beautiful book will appeal to tourists and Icelanders alike (because of its subject and the bilingual edition); it provides an intimate look at family life and childhood in rural Iceland that outsiders would rarely witness; and the stunning photographs explore the connection between family life, childhood, and the environment.

Tagline: An intimate and evocative photographic portrayal of children and childhood in rural Iceland.

Description of the work:

Iceland is known worldwide for its stunning scenery and majestic wild landscapes. When photographer Nancy Libson first visited Iceland for a hiking trip some twenty years ago, she immediately fell in love with the country and its dramatic landscape. She vowed to return again, camera in hand. Beginning in 2015, Libson did just that, revisiting Iceland for four additional summers to photograph the land and its people.

When Libson began her project, she chose to get to know Iceland's people and natural wonders in the small towns and villages, especially in rural areas. As she experienced this remote and beautiful land, she soon noticed the unique qualities of growing up in Iceland and her emphasis shifted from people of all ages to children at home and at play. Libson noticed that Icelandic children are granted an unusual level of freedom while living securely in close-knit families and supportive communities. She was further inspired to capture Iceland's remoteness and beauty and its impact on the children who live there.

As portrayed in *Children in Iceland*, Libson's photographs provide an intimate, thought-provoking, and playful view of the lives of the children surrounded by Iceland's natural landscape. By photographing Iceland's children, Libson began to better understand not only the children, but through them the culture and spirit of growing up in this remarkable country. Kristín Helga Gunnarsdóttir, the well-known Icelandic children's author, concludes the book with her heartfelt afterword, sharing her enthusiasm for the freedom that Icelandic children feel from living with and close to nature.

Blurbs:

"If there is such a thing as a carefree, idyllic childhood, it is to be found in the rural countryside of Iceland. We see the joy on the children's faces as they play without a care in the world, where the family is close knit, fathers take their place in the sun, and the environment is the watchful neighbor in an Icelandic tale that is so wonderfully told in the loving, revealing photographs of Nancy Libson."

—David Freese, photographer and author of *Iceland Wintertide*, winner of the 2022 IPPY Gold Medal for Best Book on Europe, and the award-winning *Trilogy of North American Waters: West Coast, East Coast, and Mississippi River*

"Nancy Libson's remarkable photographs show the everyday moments of children and families whose lives are uniquely situated within the spare and otherworldly Icelandic landscape. *Children in Iceland* is unlike any other book about this wonderful country."

—Melissa Ann Pinney, photographer and author of *Girl Ascending* and *In Their Own Light: Photographs from Chicago Public Schools*

“Nancy Libson’s *Children in Iceland* is a very lovely book, one that makes me yearn to be back in Iceland. I know that light, those environs, those people—all precious reminders of my experiences there.”

—Paula Chamlee, photographer and author of *Iceland: A Personal View, Volume 1*

About the Author:

Nancy Libson has been taking photographs of people and places with a special interest in rural communities for decades. Her solo exhibitions include “Small Towns and Villages of Rural Wisconsin, Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, and Canada” at Harvard University’s Fogg Art Museum, “Maine Villages” at the Wisconsin State Historical Society in Madison, and “Summertime Iceland: Light as a Metaphor at the House of Sweden,” which was sponsored by the Embassy of Iceland in Washington, D.C., and selected group exhibits include the Photographic Center Northwest in Seattle and the Academy Art Museum in Easton, Maryland. Her photographs were included in the PhotoIreland Festival in Dublin sponsored by Cow House Studios, and her photographs of children are in the permanent collection of the Library of Congress. In 2020 and 2021, she received two individual grants from the (Washington) DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

About the Contributor:

Kristín Helga Gunnarsdóttir was born in Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1963 and was raised there. She studied Spanish at the Universities of Iceland and Barcelona and received her B.A. in Spanish and journalism from the University of Utah. A writer, columnist, and environmental activist, she is best known for her series of children’s books on the character Fíasól. She is a three-time winner of the Icelandic Women’s Literature Award and the Reykjavik City Children’s Book Award and resides in Reykjavik.