

## AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF

Annabel P. Filbert for the degree of Honors Baccalaureate of Arts in Anthropology presented on April 09, 2007. Title: Fire and Ice: Reflections at the End of the Earth.

Abstract approved:

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Lani Roberts

Antarctica is all but forgotten by most people, but its mere presence shapes the world in which we live, controlling global climate, wind and weather patterns, ocean currents, and associated plant and animal communities. The Antarctic food web is supported entirely by algae and small shrimp-like crustaceans known as krill, while each in its own way contributes to the global carbon cycle and plays a critical role in controlling global warming. At the same time, the Antarctic continent itself as well as its often highly specialized flora and fauna is threatened by global warming, overfishing, tourism, and other human activities. In the context of my own travels to Antarctica in January 2007, I have also selected certain species of native fauna that I encountered and which I feel to be representative of the majesty of the Antarctic Peninsula, and which I hope will inspire a commitment to the preservation of Antarctica for its own sake.

Key Words: Antarctica, ecology, wildlife, travelogues

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Fire and Ice:  
Reflections at the End of the Earth

by  
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A PROJECT  
submitted to  
Oregon State University  
University Honors College

in partial fulfillment of  
the requirements for the  
degree of  
Honors Baccalaureate of Arts in Anthropology (Honors Associate)

Presented April 09, 2007  
Commencement June 2007

Honors Baccalaureate of Arts in Anthropology project of Annabel P. Filbert presented on April 09, 2007.

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I understand that my project will become part of the permanent collection of Oregon State University, University Honors College. My signature below authorizes release of my project to any reader upon request.

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Annabel P. Filbert, Author

## Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following people:

My mentor, Dr Lani Roberts, for never letting me cut corners, and my committee members who have each inspired and encouraged me all the way along.

Dr Kurt Peters, for nurturing my interest in other worlds.

Mr Eric Hill, for stimulating my imagination and creative ability.

Mr Jordan Hofer, for his steadfast support and friendship, and for always being able to spare a minute of his time.

Dr Michael Behrenfeld for clarifying for me the complicated world of phytoplankton.

Dr Mark Lusk, for his pleasant company and guidance on the journey, without which I may never have made it home!

The wonderful UHC staff, especially Rebekah Lancelin, to whom I owe much of my sanity.

University of Georgia staff Dr Michael Tarrant and Dr Laura Sessions, as well as my fellow classmates for giving me fodder for the bulk of this project.

The expedition staff of the Polar Star, especially Dr Damon Stanwell-Smith for getting me through in a pinch, and Florian Piper, for keeping me on the map and inspiring me to climb to new heights—and occasionally offering a rope.

And last but not least, my very patient mother, who put up with countless temper tantrums and mental breakdowns during the entire process, and my cats, who never ran far.

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