

FACT SHEET FOR *RANKIN INLET: A NOVEL*
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Title/subtitle: RANKIN INLET: A NOVEL

Author: Mara Feeney

Publisher: Gaby Press

Category: Fiction/Literature

Sub-categories: Arctic fiction, Nunavut (fiction), Northwest Territories (fiction), historical novel, family saga, Canadian aboriginal history (fiction)

Total pages: 252

Illustrations: 7 line drawings (some repeated several times) by Marilyn Duffey

Front cover art: original painting by Nauya (deceased Inuit artist)

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Format: perfect bound trade paperback

Publication date: April 1, 2009 (to coincide with the tenth anniversary of Canada's newest Territory, Nunavut)

Price: \$17.95 U.S.

US distribution: Ingram Book Company, Baker & Taylor, Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com

Canada/UK Distribution: Ingram International, Amazon.ca, Chapters-Indigo, Amazon.co.uk, Bertrams, Gardners Books, The Book Depository, Coutts and Dawson, Holt Jackson

Intended Audience: Adults or young adults with an interest in Arctic history and contemporary issues, the history of Nunavut, twentieth century challenges faced by the the Inuit people, Canadian Arctic politics, cross-cultural encounters, ethnic stories, or unusual family sagas.

Author credentials: While earning a degree in Anthropology in the 1970s, Mara Feeney spent her summers in Canada's Northwest Territories. She later worked for several years as an Eskimo Housing Officer in small communities around the Hudson Bay. Her graduate thesis in Community and Regional Planning focused on cultural values and differing perspectives among Inuit, Indians and Whites in the Northwest Territories as reflected in approaches to land use planning. Ms. Feeney wrote numerous socioeconomic impact analyses and community outreach plans before turning her attention to writing fiction. *Rankin Inlet* is her first novel.

Brief Synopsis: *Rankin Inlet* is a novel set in an isolated community on the west coast of the Hudson Bay, in Arctic Canada. The main characters are a British nurse-midwife who has been posted to the Rankin Inlet Nursing Station and a traditional Inuit hunter and his family, who are struggling to adjust to modern settlement life. The novel opens in 1970 and ends in 1999, but through a series of stories and flashbacks, it touches on many of the substantial cultural changes that the Inuit people have confronted and adapted to throughout the twentieth century. While the characters grapple with issues of love and loss, identity and belonging, Canada's political map is changing, resulting in the birth of a new Territory and homeland for the Inuit.

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