



*I*n Spring 2010, I moved to a private 40-acre island off Drummond Island in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. At the time I had no realization of how much I would come to love winter more than any other season. Winter 2010-11 was my first winter on the island. When I did not have to go to work, even though the temperatures were sub-freezing, my husband encouraged me to go for walks.

After a few mornings, it became apparent that what I saw along Lake Huron's shoreline could change or disappear within hours or at the latest, by the next day. Water in its various forms of snow and ice mutates and transforms quickly, especially when there are winds and waves to sculpt it. Wintery water is the ultimate transmuter of nature. I came to love winter for all the splendor and incredible treasures it creates for the eye.

Photography is a creative expression of how I see the world. I use photography to show others what delights me; and I hope they have joy looking at my images. On my walks, my camera was my constant companion; often as soon after breakfast and as close to sunrise as possible. Each morning became a treasure hunt.

*Art of Winter* is a photographic presentation of the beauty that winter creates with ice and snow. Also included are two essays about the beauty of winter and photography. All the photographs are from Drummond Island, Michigan. Through the lens of my camera and this book, I share with you two of my passions – winter and photography.

This book is for you and everyone else who does not want to or is unable to live in a remote area, in the northern part of the United States, where single digit temperatures can be the norm. It is for you and all those who do not want to wander around an icy lakeshore just as the sun rises. And it is for you and all the other people who have fond memories of water, snow, ice, and the Great Lakes.

Enjoy!

*Julie McKay Covert*