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Concerning grief in END OF ICE (2020 [2019]) by Dahr Jamail, and a Denali Summitography

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Concerning **grief** in THE END OF ICE: BEARING WITNESS AND FINDING MEANING IN THE PATH OF CLIMATE DISRUPTION (New York: New Press, 2020 paperback edition with epilogue [2019]) by Dahr Jamail, and a Denali Sumitography

Theodore Walker Jr.
Lillie R. Jenkins

The ice that is ending includes glaciers, with special reference to Mount Denali's Kahiltna Glacier. Human-caused climate disruption is leading to "unstoppable melting in both the Antarctic and Greenland ice sheets" (Jamail 2020: 5-6). The purpose of this book is to "bear witness to what we have done to the Earth," and to "accept the heartbreaking truth" that "it is unlikely to turn anything around" (Jamail 2020: 219-220). Earth is dying.

Instead of false hope that climate disruption can be stopped, Jamail grieves. He says: "I am grieving and yet I have never felt more alive. I have found that it is possible to reach a place of acceptance and inner peace, while enduring the grief and suffering that are inevitable as the biosphere declines" (Jamail 2020: 219-220). On analogy to being present with his dying best friend, Jamal says "I think, the greatest service I can offer in these times" is "being with the Earth" (Jamail 2020: 220), and Jamail feels most intimately connected to the Earth when he is mountaineering on Denali.

And so, chapter 1 is titled "Denali."

Mount Denali (Mount McKinley) Sumitography

Prepared by Lillie R. Jenkins



ALASKA 1937 USA, 3 US cents. Horizontal stamp features Denali – “The Great One” in background with Alaska’s rich, wild expanses midground, fertile land in foreground, and timber resources framing left and right. Caption: "U.S. POSTAGE * THREE CENTS * ALASKA."

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_1980.2493.2710

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Mi:US407, **Sn:**US800, **Yt:**365, **Sg:**796



Alaska Statehood 1959 USA, 7 US cents. Horizontal, multi-dimensional stamp issued the day Alaska became a state. Stamp depicts the big dipper and North Star superimposed over the map of Alaska which is then superimposed over a background image of Alaska’s timberlands and snow-covered mountains. A high snow-capped peak reminiscent of Denali is pictured in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. Caption: “ALASKA STATEHOOD 1969”

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_2006.2004.43

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Mi:US743, **Sn:**US C53, **Yt:**US PA52, **Sg:**US A1123



Denali National Park and Reserve 1972. USA, 15 US cents. Horizontal stamp featuring full-color image of snow-capped mountains and Denali’s peak. Denali is Athabascan word meaning, the great (or high) one, or as the Russian is translated, “big mountain.” Mountains fill the stamp frame reinforcing the mountain’s grand perspective. Caption: National Parks Centennial – Mount McKinley * Alaska

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_1980.2493.15621

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Mi:US1073, **Sn:**US1454, **Yt:**US954, **Sg:**US1457



Alaska Statehood 1984. USA, 20 US cents. Vertical stamp with Denali peak and mountains in background and a silhouetted moose’s head with full antlers in the foreground. The stamp commemorates three events: Alaska’s 25th year as a state, the first civil government, as well as the first permanent settlement. Caption: “1959-1984 Alaska Statehood”

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_1999.2004.325

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Mi:US1670, **Sn:**US2066, **Yt:**US1508, **Sg:**US2063



Alaska Highway 1992. USA, 29 US cents. Vertical stamp features a 1942 Army photo showing Denali in the background and the 1400-mile Alaska and Canada (AlCan) highway as it meanders from mid-ground to foreground. This stamp celebrates the highway's 50th anniversary. Caption: "Alaska Highway 1942"

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_1993.2015.264

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Mi:US2239, **Sn:**US2635, **Yt:**US2021, **Sg:**US2665



Mount McKinley (Denali) 2001. USA, 80 US cents. Horizontal stamp shows aerial view of mountains with Denali's peak at top right. Mountain cluster fill entire stamp frame. Caption: "Mount McKinley, Alaska"

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_2002.2007.284

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Mi:US3449, **Sn:**US C137, **Yt:**US PA129, **Sg:**US A3600a



Alaska Statehood 2009. USA, 42 US cents. The 49th state was admitted to the Union in 1959. This horizontal stamp celebrates simultaneously the 50th anniversary of statehood, and the tenacity of the human spirit. The background features Alaska's mountains including Denali (Mt. McKinley), the highest mountain peak in North America. The lower right corner shows sledder DeeDee Jonrowe competing in the annual 674-mile Iditarod, the Great Race of Mercy. Jonrowe was then the first living person to be featured on a US stamp. Caption: "1959 ALASKA".

https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_2009.2029.13

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Mi:US4468, **Sn:**US4374, **Yt:**US4135, **Sg:**US4925

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