

SEASONS OF THE NORTH



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFF RICHTER

WITH ESSAYS BY
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"Bottoms up!"



"Navigator"



*Sandhill cranes are becoming more common throughout the North.
Their clattery call is one of my favorite bird sounds; Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, Burnett County, Wisconsin.*











Many of the old farm fields in the North now produce wildflowers rather than a crop.

Left: Easily the most eerie, ominous and unusual light I've ever photographed—right out our back door.





Rarely-seen cougar

Left: Classic northwoods



THE SIREN'S SONG

Fall

by Chad McGrath

T*he sweltering heat of August has melted away. Foliage mimics summer's rainbows. Lakes reflect these colors, and the sun's lower arc through the sky changes how its light sparkles on water's wind-ruffled surface. This is fall. And no one can deny fall's beauty. Who would want to?*

Yet for those who love the North, there is more to fall than simple beauty. Beauty is a siren—it seduces but cannot last. Nature changes. As Emerson said, “Nature is like an immutable cloud, always and never the same.” Those who love it here embrace change, and fall, perhaps more than any other season, brings change.





The trumpeter swan is an impressive bird with its immense size and eight-foot wingspan. They tend to be approachable, allowing the use of a wide-angle lens (left) in addition to the usual telephoto (above).





Snow dunes create sensual shapes on Lake Superior; Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Left: Slightly overcast light enhances the texture of soft snow sculptures.