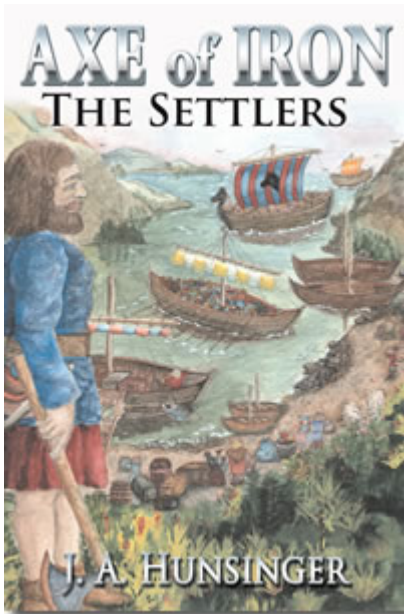


AllBooks Review

by Shirley Roe



Genre: Historical Fiction

Title: **Axe of Iron: The Settlers**

Author: J. A. Hunsinger

Halfdan Ingolfsson is a brave, intelligent leader of men. His second in command, Gudbjartur Einarsson is loyal, invaluable and ruthless. He does what must be done. The two men lead a group of Greenlanders, sometime between the year 997 and 1003, to a new and exciting land. A land filled with game, fish, fresh vegetation, and North American natives. Can the two men discover the perfect home for this diversified group of men, women, and children? Will Halfdan decide to take a wife from amongst the women traveling with them? How will they coexist with the

natives?

Author, J. A. Hunsinger is an expert in the mores and customs of the Northmen, the Vikings and the Norse in general. His research is beyond reproach and he provides an educational, yet attention-getting plot. The characters are believable, filled with faults and foibles, most realistic. The descriptions of ancient North American shores are vivid, and in depth. Readers can picture the landscape, the animals, and the settlement of the settlers.

The use of fiction to develop a story around a most informative history lesson is a talent, and this author definitely excels here. The book is filled with technical descriptions of tools, ships, and interesting facts of their day-to-day existence. Sometimes brutal and violent, their lives were filled with adventure. The pagan customs and the mix of early Christianity are well explained in fictitious settings.

As one who has visited L'Anse-aux-Meadows in Newfoundland's northern tip, I found this book very interesting, exciting and a great read. Perhaps this was the land of Halfdan and Frida. I look forward to the rest of the series. Highly recommended by
Reviewer: Shirley Roe, Allbooks Review.

Title: Axe of Iron: The Settlers
Author: J. A. Hunsinger

Publisher: Vinland Publishing, LLC

ISBN: 978-0-9801601-0-9

Pages:384

Price: \$17.95

May. 2008

Author Interview

Please state your name and location. (city and State or Province, Country)

J. A. Hunsinger

Grand Junction, CO, USA

Tell us the title and publisher of your book:

Axe of Iron—The Settlers

Vinland Publishing, LLC

661 Tamarron Drive

Grand Junction, CO 81506 USA

Tell us about yourself:

I am retired from an aviation career. I am a fulltime writer fully engaged in a lifetime passion of telling the story of the Norse Greenlanders settlement adventures on the North American continent through the eyes of the characters. My *Axe of Iron* series will be five novels telling the story of a people who have disappeared from history. Where did they go? My series will speak to that question.

When was the book released?

The official publication date is 1August2008. However, books are available through my distributor beginning the week of 19May2008:

<http://www.atlasbooks.com/marktplc/02175.htm>

Give us an overview of your book.

AXE OF IRON—THE SETTLERS

by J. A. Hunsinger

SYNOPSIS

This novel is a tale of survival, strife, love, and the quest for a new home in the face of hostile opposition. Conditions of manifest destiny propel a large contingent of Norse Greenlanders from relative security into an odyssey of exploration and settlement out over the unknown waters of the North Atlantic, to a North America of one thousand years ago; to a land, they called Vinland.

The chieftain, Halfdan Ingolfsson and his second-in-command, Gudbjartur Einarsson, spend a winter gathering 315 men, women, and children from the two Norse settlements on the southwestern coast of Greenland. Early in the spring of AD 1008, the company sets sail aboard six large cargo ships. Five days into the voyage, in the strait between Helluland and Markland—present day Hudson Strait—a gale holds the flotilla in its grip

for four long and arduous days.

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What inspired you to write this book?

My *Axe of Iron* series is the culmination of lifelong interest and research into the Medieval Norse Greenland settlements and specifically their total unexplained disappearance from Greenland by the mid-15th century. They lived on Greenland for 500-years, from 986 to about 1425. Nobody knows what happened to them; where they went; nothing. This lack of insight left a large historical gap that my novels attempt to fill.

How is your book different from other books in this genre?

To my knowledge, no writer has ever written a character-driven series of novels that follows a large, mixed group of Norse Greenland people as they struggle to settle on the North American continent 1000-years ago. They must overcome every adversity and hardship to survive. The outcome of the series is pre-ordained: it will make perfect sense to the reader because it is the only possible answer to an enduring historical enigma.

Where can people buy your book?

Before publication, 1 August 2008, the book is available for purchase on my website: <http://www.vinlandpublishing.com> or from my distributor: <http://www.atlasbooks.com/marktplc/02175.htm>

After publication, it will also be available nationwide at all major booksellers, including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, Borders, Baker & Taylor, Ingram Books, Hastings, etc.

Are you working on another book? If so when do you expect it to be published?

The next book of the series, *Axe of Iron—Confrontation* will be published during the winter/spring of 2009.

If you self published, what advice can you give to fellow writers?

I prefer the term, independent publisher, rather than self-publisher. The difference being I am completely responsible for the entire process and do not work through or with another publisher. I formed a conventional publishing company that will also publish selected works from other authors at some point in the future. I formed this company so that I retained full ownership of my titles. I employ professional editors, composition/format people, marketing/distribution/ warehouse facilities,

and advertising professionals, just like any other publisher. If you want control of your literary efforts this is the only way. It costs money and it is lots of work, but the results are satisfying.

If published traditionally, tell us how you benefited:

N/A

Can you share one of your marketing successes with us?

Yes, type J. A. Hunsinger, or Axe of Iron—The Settlers into your favorite browser: Google, Yahoo, AltaVista, MSN, etc. You will find details of the book and the author on the first page that comes up. I am happy about that.

How did you find Allbooks Reviews and what are you hoping for in your relationship with us?

I specifically sought a Canadian company because my series takes place in the Provinces of Newfoundland/Labrador, Newfoundland Island, Quebec, and Ontario. The Canadian market is very important to this effort because my tale involves pre-historical Canadians. I hope to work closely with Shirley Roe, and everyone at Allbooks Reviews in the coming weeks/months/years.

Was the low cost a surprise? What other things would you like Allbooks Reviews to offer writers?

The cost was very reasonable. I purchased the full promotional package and six months of promotion on your website. I am certain that more will follow if I obtain results from this first exposure to your market.

Thank you for this interview and best of luck with your book.

Thank you, I appreciate the opportunity very much.