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Subject: Ice and Wind: Standing on the Arctic Ocean  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 01 May 2012 05:38:39 GMT  
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Folks,

A number of people have sent me e-mails over the years, after reading something on my web page, suggesting that maybe I ought to "write a book." You will be happy to know (or, maybe not) that I have taken your suggestions seriously. Today I announce a new book that has nothing whatsoever to do with IDL, except that it was an IDL friend who got me into this mess in the first place.

In fact, it was here, in the IDL newsgroup, where I first announced that I really needed to "get out of town." The next thing I knew, Ben Tupper had fixed me up with a group of oceanographers heading up to the Arctic Ocean. When I checked the weather the day Ben called, it was -35 degrees F, with a wind chill of -65 degrees. Good God! I meant a sunny beach in Greece where nobody spoke English!

So anyway, the result is a long essay about the month I spent in the Arctic Ocean with these scientists. The book is what we call long-form journalism, which means the story is too long for a magazine article or essay, and too short for a book. It is fast becoming my favorite kind of reading on my Kindle.

The book, Ice and Wind: Standing on the Arctic Ocean, is an E-book and is formatted for the Kindle, the iPad/iPhone/Nook/Etc and the computer (in PDF format). (The iPhone is a great place to read these kinds of articles, while you are waiting for your next meeting to get started.) I've priced the book at half the cost of a cup of coffee, and you enjoy it for approximately twice as long. It will take you about an hour to read the story, more or less.

You can find the book (in whatever format you need) in the E-Books section of the Coyote Store:

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/store/index.php>

My plan, if all goes well, will be to make this book available at the Kindle Store and other locations where people typically buy E-books.

I hope you buy it, and I hope you enjoy it. In any case, I'd love

to hear from you about it. I have several more books in mind if this one strikes a chord with anyone. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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