



## Coming Out of the Ice

*By Victor Herman*

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### Coming Out of the Ice By Victor Herman

In 1931, a young American named Victor Herman accompanied his parents to the Soviet Union, where his father was to set up a Ford Motor Company plant. In 1938, he was inexplicably thrown into a Soviet prison. It was forty-five years before he was able to return to America. His was a common nightmare during the Stalin years. Those who survived imprisonment and torture were either sent north to hard labor in the icy forests and mines or into exile. Victor Herman was one of the few who survived. During his life in and out of Russian prisons, he fell in love with a Russian gymnast, who followed him into exile. She lived with him and their child for a year in Siberia in a cave chopped out of ice. Theirs was a romance destined to thrive even under desperate conditions.

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### Editorial Review

About the Author

**Victor Herman** was born in America and moved to the Soviet Union with his family at the age of sixteen. There, he became a celebrity for his flying and world-record breaking parachute jumps. In 1938, he was thrown into Soviet prison, where he survived for eighteen years. After Stalin's death he was "pardoned" and, in 1976, after much effort, was finally allowed to return to America. His family joined him in 1978. They live in Michigan.

**Christopher Hurt** is an accomplished narrator with a lengthy resume of popular titles for Blackstone. A graduate of George Washington University's acting program, he currently resides in New York City.

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Victor Herman, together with his sisters and Russian-born parents, goes to the Soviet Union to establish an auto factory for Ford Motor Company, becomes the "Lindbergh of Russia," is imprisoned and tortured under Stalin, and ends up in Siberia. After 45 years in Russia, Herman returns to the United States to tell his tale. Hurt narrates Herman's stream-of-consciousness autobiography through trials, tribulations and survival under the harshest conditions. As the narrative jumps from scene to scene and different periods of time, Hurt manages to keep track of the setting and appropriate accents, lessening the discontinuity of the story. M.B.K. (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine

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