Contents

List of Maps  page vii
List of Figures  ix
Acknowledgments  xi
Note on Sources, Abbreviations, Terminology, and Transliteration  xv

1 Landscape of Mystery  1
2 Destruction from the Sky  13
3 Reaching the Inaccessible Terrain  34
4 Poking and Prodding for Answers  60
5 Cosmic Fantasies  84
6 Volunteers Take Charge  110
7 Life in Tunguska  135
8 Protecting the Taiga  161
9 Views from Afar  183
10 Siberian and Planetary Futures  205

Endnotes  213
Bibliography  253
Index  287