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K2: Savage Mountain, Savage Summer



Synopsis

Great book on the the disastrous 1986 climbing season on K2.

Book Information

Hardcover: 188 pages

Publisher: Oxford Illustrated Press (September 1987)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 094660942X

ISBN-13: 978-0946609420

Package Dimensions: 9.4 x 6.7 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #3,247,103 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in [Books > Travel > Asia > Pakistan](#) #3484 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Mountaineering > Mountain Climbing](#) #38241 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation](#)

Customer Reviews

Great book on the the disastrous 1986 climbing season on K2.

I've read about 200 climbing books, and this one was quite different from all the rest. At first I was turned off by Barry's writing style. It required concentration (like learning a new language), but I kept with it and it grew on me. His British humor sometimes went straight over my head, and I had to google a few of the slang words (I never knew "dossing" meant sleeping), but that just made it colorful. I've read several books that address the disastrous 1986 climbing season on K2 (including Jim Curran's "K2: Triumph and Tragedy", Kurt Diemberger's "The Endless Knot", and Ed Viesturs' "K2: Life and Death on the World's Most Dangerous Mountain"), plus numerous excerpts from other authors. Even though Jim Curran and John Barry were on the same expedition, their perspectives differ (particularly regarding leader Al Rouse), so it was interesting to read another take on the events as they unfolded. Ultimately, I enjoyed Barry's dry wit and liked this book, even though much of it was merely taken from his journal entries. Not the finest book about the 1986 season (I prefer Diemberger's & Curran's books), but I thought it was an enjoyable read.

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