The time has come for the story of Mount K2, the story of the savage mountain, to be told in a new edition that captures the essence of this magnificent peak.

K2, the second highest mountain in the world, has been the source of fascination and fear for generations. The story of its conquests is a tale of human determination, bravery, and tragedy. From the first American summit in 1963 to the recent expeditions pushing the limits of human endurance, Mount K2 has been the testing ground for some of the greatest climbers.

This book takes you on a journey through the mountain's history, its geological formation, and the stories of those who have attempted to conquer it. You'll discover the challenges faced by early mountaineers, the innovations that have helped push the limits of human capability, and the lessons learned along the way.

With detailed accounts of expeditions from the 1950s to the present day, K2, The Story Of The Savage Mountain, is a riveting saga of high adventure by one of history's greatest climbers. It is a story of triumph and tragedy, of bravery and heroism, and of the human spirit in the face of terrible odds.

The book also includes new content, such as a foreword by Ed Viesturs and an afterword by the author, Jim Whittaker. These reflections add a layer of depth and perspective to the story, making it not just a tale of conquest, but a meaningful exploration of what it means to be human.

Whether you are a seasoned climber or a casual reader, K2, The Story Of The Savage Mountain, is a must-read. It is a testament to the human spirit and a reminder of the power of perseverance and the importance of pushing beyond our limits.
The Story Of The Savage Mountain

Interview many of the climbers featured in this book—including Revol, the climbing partner of Tomek Mackiewicz, and Anna Mackiewicz, his widow, meeting them just a few months after Mackiewicz’s death on Nanga Parbat. M. O’Donald’s many personal relationships with profiled climbers and her ability to tap into emotions and family histories lend Winter 8000 an intimacy too often lacking in mountaineering histories. These accounts prove the point: Nature is not subservient to man.

The Last Step is Rick Ridgeway’s inside story of this extraordinary expedition. It’s about the people who, battered by the mountain and their isolation, overcame their individual fears, desire, and disappointments to work together to get somebody—anybody—to the top of K2. It’s about the glorious success the team achieved, and about the perilous bivouac Jim Wickwire spent just below the summit without food, oxygen or shelter in temperatures of -40F.

A veteran mountaineer recalls some of his most dangerous climbs as he pursued the goal of reaching the summit of the world’s fourteen 8,000-meter peaks, discussing some of his own close calls and rescues, and errors in judgment on the part of fellow climbers.

“The story of the 1939 American K2 expedition is well known among mountaineers: world-class German-born climber Fritz Wiessner and Pasang Dawa Lama came within 800 feet of attaining the world’s second-highest unclimbed summit before turning back for more supplies. Rejoining the expedition was Dudley Wolfe, who had not stayed to climb. Upon reaching the lower camps, the party found themselves stripped of supplies and deserted. Wiessner decided to descend further to investigate, and left Wolfe behind—alone. Later, unable to descend solo, Wolfe had to be rescued; but the attempt failed, and Wolfe and Sherpas Pasang Kikuli, Pasang Kitar, and Phinsoo died. Initially, Wiessner was held responsible, but in time the blame shifted to climber Jack Durrance and another Sherpa. The disaster was considered one of the worst accidents in the climbing history of the Himalaya. It was also a subject of much speculation for years afterward; in 1961, Italian climber Fosco Maranici claimed it a tragedy “on which no full light has ever been shed.”

For some historians, the speculation would not rest. There were too many missing pieces, inconsistencies, and unanswered questions for a disaster of this scale. Unfortunately, reliable documentation was scarce. So was the cooperation of the remaining expedition members, who did not want to rekindle the controversy that arose from the expedition’s failure. They echoed the neutral statement issued by the investigating committee of the American Alpine Club in 1940, which said, in effect, let sleeping dogs lie. “When Andrew J. Kauffman and William L. Putnam later began work on Wiessner’s biography, they found discrepancies in the account of the K2 incident. Intrigued, they dug deeper and began to uncover a larger tangle of events than had been previously suspected. The recent availability of Jack Durrance’s own trip diary further enabled them to unravel the events of the ill-fated adventure on K2.”

“K2: The 1939 Tragedy retreads the expedition’s key elements— the debilitating weather, the personalities and weaknesses of party members, Wiessner’s “romantic vision” uncharacteristic of the climbing era—and reveals the steps that led toward catastrophe. This story stands as one of the most dramatic, complex, and instructive in mountaineering history. K2: The 1939 Tragedy attempts to balance the accounts of this fifty-year-old saga.”

“A monumental book. I defy anyone to read it and remain unmoved.”

Stephen Venables, Alpinist Journal

Acclaimed as one of the most powerful accounts of mountain adventure and tragedy ever written, The Endless K not is a harrowing account of the 1986 K2 disaster. A rare first-hand account from a survivor at the very epicentre of the drama, The Endless K not describes the disaster in frank detail. Kurt Diemberger’s account of the final days of success, accident, storm and escape during which five climbers died, including his partner Julie Tullis and the great British mountaineer Al Rouse, is lacerating in its sense of tragedy, loss and dogged survival. Only Diemberger and Willi Bauer escaped the mountain. K2 had claimed the lives of 13 climbers that summer. Kurt Diemberger is one of only two climbers to have made first ascents of two 8000-metre peaks, Broad Peak and Dhaulagiri. A superb mountaineer, the K2 trauma left him physically and emotionally ravaged, but it also marked him out as an instinctive and tenacious survivor. After a long period of recovery Diemberger published The Endless K not and resumed life as a mountaineer, filmmaker and international lecturer.

Following the success of EPIC: STORIES OF SURVIVAL FROM THE WORLD’S HIGHEST PEAKS, Adrenaline Books returns with HIGH: STORIES OF SURVIVAL FROM EVEREST AND K2. The first anthology devote exclusively to climbing on the world’s two highest and best-known mountains, High spans the years 1933 through 1996. Editor Clint Willis has gathered the best-written and most exciting prose about mountaineering’s ultimate challenges from the century’s most accomplished writers—from Jon Krakauer to David Roberts to Chris Bonnington. When Matt Dickinson tells what it’s like for an amateur to climb a swaying aluminum ladder high on Everest’s North Col route, we understand his fear. When Jim Haverl waits high on K2’s Abruzzi Ridge for sunrise over China to slow the bitter wind and warm his extremities, we know he is cold. When Maria Coffey mourns the loss of her beloved, who died on Everest’s unclimbed North Ridge, we grieve with her. And when Doug Scott summits Everest via the horrendously difficult Southwest face and later writes of the moment, “All the world lay before us. . . ,” it lies before us as well.
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The recent availability of Jack Durrance's own trip diary further enabled them to unravel the events of the ill-fated adventure on K2. K2: The 1939 Tragedy retraces the expedition's key elements -- the debilitating weather, the personalities and weaknesses of party members, Wiessner's "romantic vision" uncharacteristic of the climbing era --and reveals the steps that led toward catastrophe. K2: The 1939 Tragedy attempts to balance the accounts of this fifty-year-old saga.

When eleven climbers died on K2 on August 1, 2008, it was a stark reminder that the world's second-highest mountain has, for more than a century, been regarded as the most difficult and dangerous of all—for every four people who reach the top, one dies in the attempt. K2, The Savage Mountain tells the dramatic story of the 1953 American expedition, led by Charles S. Houston, when a combination of terrible storms and illness stopped the team near the summit, on the day of the 28,251-foot summit. Then on the descent, tragedy struck, and k how the climbers made it back to safety is renowned in the annals of climbing. K2, The Savage Mountain captures this sensational tale with an unmatched power that has earned this book its place as one of the classics of mountaineering literature.

The astonishing, uplifting story of a real-life Indiana Jones and his humanitarian campaign to use education to combat terrorism in the Taliban's backyard A anyone who depairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson, a homeless mountaineer who, following a 1993 climb of Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. As it chronicles Mortenson's quest, which has brought him into conflict with both enraged Islamists and uncomprehending Americans, Three Cups of Tea combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit.

"No Way Down is both a gripping read and a clear-eyed investigation of the hubris, politics, and bad luck that brought on one of the worst disasters in modern mountaineering history. — Michael Kados
K2 is the world's second highest mountain, but its savage reputation is second to none. The loss of Alison Hargreaves and six companions in 1995 was a grim echo of the multiple deaths in 1986 and of earlier disasters which have become part of climbing legend. K2 has always attracted the greatest names in mountaineering. Wiessner, Houston, Bonatti, Diemberger and Bonington are among those whose lives have been permanently scarred by their experiences on it. At the same time some inspiring new routes have been achieved on the world's most difficult 8000-metre peak. Jim Curran, himself a survivor of 1986, has traced the history of the mountain from the nineteenth-century pioneer explorers down to the present, and sees a repeating pattern of naked ambition, rivalry, misjudgement and recrimination. He has also found selfless heroism and impressive route-making on the mountain that top climbers will always covet as the ultimate prize.

The legendary mountaineer describes his adventures in such ranges as the Alps and Himalayas, and provides details of what really happened during a controversial 1954 Italian expedition that made the first ascent of K2.

K2 is almost 800 feet shorter than Everest, yet it's a far harder climb. Many great mountaineers became obsessed with reaching its summit, not all of them lived to tell of their adventures. Capturing the depth of their obsession, the heart-stopping tension of the climb and delving into the controversy that still surrounds the first ascent, Mick Conefrey delivers the definitive account of the 'Savage Mountain'. From drug-addicted occultist Aleister Crowley to the brilliant but tortured expedition leader Charlie Houston and, later, the Italian duo who finally made it to the top, Conefrey resurrects the tragic heroes, eccentric dreamers and uncompromising rivalries forever instilled in K2's legacy. This is the riveting, groundbreaking story of the world's deadliest mountain.

K2 is a legend - one of the most demanding mountaineering challenges in the world and one of the most treacherous. Extreme, unpredictable weather and the acutely difficult climbing conditions test the technique, endurance and psychological strength of the most experienced mountaineers to the limit and often beyond. Many of the men and women who have sought to reach the summit have failed, often with tragic consequences - over 70 of them have died or disappeared. Yet this, the second highest mountain on Earth, continues to exercise for the world's top mountaineers a special, and all too often lethal attraction. Richard Sales fascinating new book traces the climbing history of K2 over the last 150 years, he shows in graphic detail how it acquired this awesome reputation: it was during the first serious attempts on the summit in the 1930s and 1950s that K2 became known as the Savage Mountain.

The epic account of the 1938 American expedition to the summit of K2. Copyright © Libri GmbH. All rights reserved.

At 28,251 feet, K2 might be almost 800 feet shorter than Everest, but it is a far tougher proposition. Unlike Everest, there is no "Yak route" for commercial clients. It is hard climbing all the way from its base to its summit. K2 will kill you on the way up and kill you on the way down. Mick Conefrey tells the story of three extraordinary expeditions filled with riveting drama and unimaginable tragedy- Fritz Wiessener's controversial attempt of 1939, the disastrous American expedition of 1953, and the huge Italian expedition of 1954 on which K2 was first climbed. He captures the bold and eccentric characters - their friendships and rivalries, their guilt and betrayals. At the center of the narrative is Charlie Houston, who led the failed 1953 exhibition, who was forced to give up his ambition of ever reaching the summit, and who was haunted for the rest of his life by the ghosts of the world's most beautiful and lethal mountain.

The account of one of the deadliest and most mysterious tragedies in mountaineering history-the 2008 K2 disaster. One Mountain Thousand Summits reveals the true story of the K2 tragedy that claimed the lives of eleven men. Based on his numerous trips to Nepal and in-depth interviews he conducted with the survivors, the families of the lost climbers, and the Sherpa guides whose heroic efforts saved the lives of at least four climbers, Freddie Wilkinson's narrative uncovers what actually occurred on the mountain, while delivering a criticism of the mainstream press's incomplete coverage of the event, and an insightful look into the lives of the six Sherpas who were involved.
"A fascinating tale... Readers who are into high-altitude adventure stories won't be disappointed." — A Associated Press In 1939 the Savage Mountain claimed its first victim. Born into vast wealth yet uneasy with a life of leisure, Dudley Wolfe, of Boston and Rockport, Maine, set out to become the first man to climb K2, the world's second-highest mountain and, in the opinion of mountaineers, an even more formidable challenge than Mt. Everest. A through to middle age and inexperienced at high altitude, Wolfe, with the team leader, made it higher than any other members of the expedition, but he couldn't get back down. Suffering from altitude sickness and severe dehydration, he was abandoned at nearly 25,000 feet; it would be another sixty-three years before the author discovered his remains.

The 1953 American expedition to the second highest peak in the world.

Presents the stories of the sharps who have acted as expert consultants to Westerners climbing the Himalayas, focusing in particular on Chhiring Dorje Sherpa and Pasang Lama, who survived when 11 other climbers died on K2 in August 2008. 15,000 first printing.

"A memoir by Vanessa O'Brien, record-breaking American-British explorer, takes you on an unexpected journey to the top of the world's highest mountains"—

A saga of survival, technological innovation, and breathtaking human physical achievement -- all set against the backdrop of a world headed toward war -- that became one of the most compelling international dramas of the 20th century. While tension steadily rose between European powers in the 1930s, a different kind of battle was raging across the Himalayas. Contingents from Great Britain, Nazi Germany, and the United States had set up rival camps at the base of the mountains, all hoping to become recognized as the fastest, strongest, and bravest climbers in the world. Carried on across nearly the entire sweep of the Himalayas, this contest involved not only the greatest mountain climbers of the era, but statesmen and millionaires, world-class athletes and bona fide eccentrics, scientists and generals, obscure villagers and national heroes. Centered in the 1930s, with one brief, shining postwar coda, the contest was a struggle between hidebound traditionalists and unknown innovators, one that featured new techniques and equipment, unbelievable courage and physical achievement, and unparalleled valor. And death. One Himalayan peak alone, Nanga Parbat in Kashmir, claimed twenty-five lives in less than three years. Climbing the Himalayas was the Greatest Generation's moonshot -- one shrouded in the onset of war, interrupted by it, and then fully accomplished. A gritty, fascinating history sure to enthrall fans of Hampton Sides, Jon Krakauer, and Laura Hillenbrand, The World Beneath Their Feet brings this forgotten story back to life.

A deeply moving story of the beauty and brutality of life, and death, on the world's most unpredictable and perilous mountain. Set just lower than Everest at 8,611 meters above sea level on the China-Pakistan border, the Savage Mountain claims the lives of even the most experienced climbers. A long-time severe altitude, the weather is notoriously volatile and the climb relentlessly steep. A staggering one in four attempts result in death on the mountain. In One Man's Climb, Adrian Hayes details an intensely personal account of his attempts to climb K2 -- first in 2013 and again in 2014. Absorbing and self-reflective, his journey is as much a story of climbing a mountain as it is a testament to the human spirit's ability to endure.

On August 1, 2008, no fewer than eight international teams of mountain climbers — some experienced, others less prepared — ascended K2, the world's second-highest mountain, with the last group reaching the summit at 8 p.m. Then disaster struck. A huge ice chunk came loose above a deadly three-hundred-foot avalanche-prone gully, destroying the fixed guide ropes. More than a dozen climbers — many without oxygen and some with no headlamps — faced the nearly impossible task of descending in the blackness with no guidelines and no protection. Over the course of the chaotic night, some would miraculously make it back. Others would not. In this riveting work of narrative nonfiction, journalist Graham Bowley re-creates one of the most dramatic tales of death and survival in mountaineering history.

K2 is the second highest mountain in the world, at 8,611 metres only a couple of hundred metres lower than Everest. It is one of the most unrelenting and testing of the worlds 8,000-metre peaks. Jim Curran came to K2 as a climbing cameraman with an unsuccessful British expedition, but stayed on through the climbing season. This is his account of the dramatic events of that summer, a story of ambitions both achieved and thwarted on a mountain which all high-altitude climbers take the most pride in overcoming. In 1986 K2 took its toll of those ambitions. Curran vividly describes the moments that contribute to the exhilaration of climbing on the world's most demanding mountain, and he assesses the tragedy of that summer with compassion and impartiality.

This is the story of one man's travels through northern Pakistan, using Gilgit as a centre. You will be taken westward to the fascinating Kalash Valleys with a surviving unique culture, struggling to maintain their identity in the harsh and rugged mountains, bordering Afghanistan. The story continues to Baltistan and up through the Karakoram Mountains and the infamous Karakoram Highway that links the country to China via the Khunjerab Pass, the highest road border crossing in the world. The journey goes eastwards across the Deosai plateau which have an average elevation of 4,000m and the disputed areas of Jammu and Kashmir. Finally there is the ascent to base camp of K2, the world's second highest but most deadly of mountains.

Join Sequoia in this inspiring autobiographical adventure of her courageous trek as she leaves behind the safe, familiar surroundings of her home and travels across continents to a remote corner of the planet to "respect the mountain and the climbers who came before her". She discovers a whole new world, both inside and outside of herself, on this Journey of Heart.