

DESPERATE STEPS

LIFE, DEATH, AND CHOICES MADE IN
THE MOUNTAINS OF THE NORTHEAST

PETER W. KICK



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Desperate Steps: Life, Death, and Choices Made in the Mountains of the Northeast



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In the backcountry, a single piece of gear could suggest the difference between a comfortable night beneath the stars and a harrowing tale to tell once you're home. The best laid plans be fallible. In this all-new collection from the publisher of Not Without Peril and No Limits But the Sky, author Peter W. As each story unfolds, Kick and his sources in the SAR community offer a retrospective analysis to greatly help visitors discover for themselves what went wrong and how disasters, big and little, might be averted in the future. From close-phone calls to unsolved mysteries, these tales illuminate the realities confronted by outdoorspeople across the Northeast. Weather is certainly unpredictable. Or it might mean that you don't make it home at all. Route maps and photos further bring each misadventure alive. In the tradition of Appalachia journal's renowned "Accidents" section, Kick reviews on the facts as they were known on the ground?with the help of first-hand accounts of victims, families, witnesses, and Search-and-Rescue experts. Kick recounts twenty true tales of backcountry misadventure and misfortune, including incidents across the famed Appalachian Trail, and seeks the lessons discovered in each. And in the most severe of times, even the best decision may not be enough to turn the tides. Visitors who immerse themselves in these near misses, methodical queries, and the gut-wrenching clearness of hindsight will be better prepared for regardless of the wilderness brings.



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Learning from others This book, "Desperate Steps", exceeded my expectations for a vicarious true life adventure experience. As an RN and retired EMT and firefighter who got just one emergency treatment, rescue and survival program at Pinkham Notch with Mountain Medicine Ed, Inc, and was left mystified by the allure of the harsh places, these tales of genuine people burst off the page and kept me reading through the night until this publication was read, cover to cover. There are no typos or clumsy wording to distract from these tales of adversity. This reserve provides incidents that involve people, feelings, family members and real consequences to the front of your consciousness therefore the next period you go out, you provide the bivy. Almost clinically, Mr. Kick uses a formula of sympathetically introducing the adventurer and the surroundings they have entered. The conditions that impacted the outcome of every of the situations reported are taken to existence wltH maps and clear descriptions of weather conditions, snow, mountain and trail features. The writer brings to existence the reason why some people seem drawn to go to mountains to face the unknown. Mountains are the main characters of the story. Human choices provide the action. Another tale is about a group of teenagers who dive right into a river that is an excessive amount of for them plus they drown. Evaluations of what occurred, how the situation was taken care of immediately, and impacts upon lives and rescue policy follow each tale. The rescuers who put themselves in harm's way, and the rescue systems that have evolved to try to save people from the results of their very own actions is another interesting insight supplied by this book. There is much more to the tale known both before and after her body was found out. A Must Go through for anyone interested in hiking! This reserve is for anyone who can reserve their arrogance in order to learn from the knowledge of others so they might be forewarned about what could happen to themselves. A good deal was learned from examining her cellular phone and written log.. Good lessons to be learned if you are a hiking junkie.. The first chapter was published in the Appalachian Mountain Club magazine, and it had been so compelling that I purchased the book. Highly recommend! I'm a search and rescue volunteer, and valued the in-depth analysis of how each mishap occurred, what the search and rescue response entailed, and lessons learned. The publication clearly required a major investment of time for it to thoroughly analysis each incident. A must-read for anybody who enjoys wilderness pursuits. Very educational for hikers If you just hike for your day or certainly are a thru hiker, I would recommend knowing these tragic stories that others have observed.. Not because a specific list informed you to, but because you will keep in mind what happened to a person who didn't. Very well written and treasured the maps to follow along with each piece... After reading this publication, I'm hooked!..occasionally it's just phrases we hear. This publication is all about examining the procedure of advance planning and in-the-moment choice making. These situations seemed similar to bad luck rather than any action that was desperate. Some individuals or paperwork may say "generally do that or that". All the stories have exceptional lessons to learn from and the author does a good job summarizing the lessons as well. This book is for anybody who believes in the value of planning ahead. Excellent read for backcountry awareness This book is a collection of "what not to do's" in the wilderness or in planning any outdoors adventure. As I read through the book, I thought about my own excursions in very similar territory and how fortunate I had been. The publication is divided into categories according to the cause of the accident. I've hiked most of the locations where the incidents took place and thought the book accurately referred to them.. I am re-reading sections to greatly help me avoid any such risks for planned future endeavors. Would recommend this reserve for anyone interested in serious trekking anywhere! The case file and rescue initiatives have generated some controversy. This book is created well with many factual details which were well-researched. The end of each accident provides critique on the mistaken decision that resulted in the incident and what could possibly be done to prevent it. However, there were instances where no errors or miscalculations were made; high-risk activities inherently contain dangers. Really worth your time in the event that you often hike or ski. I came apart with great respect for individuals who risk their own lives to rescue others. I enjoyed this book thoroughly! A good read with eyes witness accounts and interviews from those involved and recommendations on what must have been done in a different way. I have learned a few new issues from the book! She frequently exhibited no sense of path as reported by her trekking companion if they were together. The author organized the incidents regarding to sections classifying dangers into types such as poor preparing, etc. It had been interesting to discover these places from somebody else's perspective, and in the context of tradgedy. Great book! This is a great read. I am intrigued by the Himalayas and Denali.

The first chapter was published in the Appalachian Mountain Golf clubI live close to the southern Appalachian Mountains but by no means have a look at them.... As another reviewer stated, every chapter is normally riveting. Five Stars Good read! This was an excellent book and i liked each story to keep me . This is how we learn.. This was a great book and i liked each story to keep me waiting for the next story that happened. Title not software in all situations, chapter on Geraldine Largay is incomplete and outdated I came across the accounts interesting and varied. Some included considerable information about the area where in fact the incident happened and rescue initiatives. However, I came across the name of the reserve confusing and non-relevant to several incidents, e.g. the person struck by lightning within their tent during the night. Why? But my biggest complaint with the publication may be the chapter on Geraldine Largay. The reader does not need to be an expert to find interest in these stories, but those experts who do pick up this book will probably find meanings beyond the understandings of those of us who prefer the low lands. The 5-day course she took did not include how to work with a compass or any navigation abilities. Again, no "desperate actions". Well Written I thought the book was well written and incredibly informative. The launch of the lengthy Maine Warden Services case file questioned her preparedness. Informative, Interesting Well written. This precise statement of incident, survival or loss of life in the mountains is an excellent read and I'm giving my copy to my favorite Appalachian Trail trekker to try heart. This book might have been more accurately titled "Accidents in the Woods". Five Stars Excellent read.. Reminds me of my British Mountain Rescue days With the Royal Air Force... Misleading Name is a Cheat This book gets a 2-star rating from me because, while it is sufficient as a collection of stories of people running into trouble in the outdoors, the title is misleading. You can find 20 stories in the publication, and only eight of them deal with people making poor options about where they chose to hike and when, leading to "desperate steps". For instance, among the accounts is usually a boy who disappears in the woods near his family's camp. Because the boy was hardly ever found and remaining no clues to his motives, the account is only about the search for the boy, not really about his ordeal. Another story is about a man who gets struck and killed by lightning while sleeping in his tent in a campground. There are no "desperate steps"; nor were any bad choices produced. Learning from the knowledge of others may be the moral. Others die in avalanches where there acquired under no circumstances been avalanches before. She was too dependent on her cellular phone. She did the right thing when becoming lost by staying in one location and setting up a camp in a higher location.



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