

# THE MEASURE OF A MOUNTAIN



BEAUTY AND TERROR ON MOUNT RAINIER

BRUCE BARCOTT

# Measure Of A Mountain Beauty And Terror On Mount Rainier

**Michael Brown**

## **Measure Of A Mountain Beauty And Terror On Mount Rainier:**

The Measure of a Mountain Bruce Barcott, 2011-02-01 A provocative highly original profile of Mount Rainier capturing the majestic beauty and deadly allure of one of the largest active volcanoes in the US Jon Krakauer author of *Into Thin Air* Mount Rainier is one of the largest and most dangerous volcanoes in the country both an awesome natural monument and a formidable presence of peril In *The Measure of a Mountain* Seattle writer Bruce Barcott sets out to grasp the spirit of Rainier through an exploratory meandering and deeply personal journey along its massive flanks From forest to precipice thinning air to fractured glaciers he explores not only the physique of Rainier but the psychology and meaning of all mountains and the deep connection that exists between humans and landscape What he finds is a complex of moss bearded hemlocks and old growth firs high meadows that blossom according to a precise natural timeclock sheets of crumbling pumice fractured glaciers and unsteady magma Rainier's snow fields bristle with bug life and its marmots chew rocks to keep their teeth from overgrowing The mountain rumbles with seismic twitches and jerks seeing one hundred thirty earthquakes annually Rainier is an obsession a temple that attracts its own passionate acolytes from scientists and priests to rangers and mountain guides as well as a monument to death Referred to by locals as simply the mountain it is the single largest feature of the Pacific Northwest landscape provided it isn't hidden in clouds Visible or not though Rainier's presence is undeniable Filled with adventure poignant personal reflections and fascinating mountain lore told by Indian chiefs professional guides priests and scientists *The Measure of a Mountain* is one man's stirring quest to reconcile with a dazzling creation of nature at once alluring and sometimes deadly

*The Measure of a Mountain* Bruce Barcott, 2011-04 Mount Rainier is the largest and most dangerous volcano in the country Looming massively above the rugged Cascade Range in Washington State it is visited by millions climbed by thousands and romanticized as the most potent icon of the region Yet it is a mountain that few truly know In *The Measure of a Mountain* Seattle writer Bruce Barcott

**Mount Rainier: A Climbing Guide** Mike Gauthier, 2005-03-16 41 principal routes and their variations with aerial photos and route overlays Extensive material on Rainier's unique weather terrain high altitude and glacier training opportunities and more Features sidebars on mountain history Rainier personalities and dramatic rescues One of author Mike Gauthier's primary duties as Lead Climbing Ranger for Mount Rainier National Park was advising climbing parties about what to expect on the mountain Name any route on Rainier and he can describe its rewards and specific challenges he's summited Rainier more than 170 times during all seasons and under intense conditions Whether you choose the classic Liberty Ridge route the drama of Success Cleaver or the rarely attempted Mowich Face Gauthier provides all the details you'll need for a successful and enjoyable climb This edition presents the information on logistics regulations and permits It includes expanded material on understanding and surmounting Rainier's famed glaciers tips on selecting a guide service excellent mountaineering training sites around Rainier for those bound for the world's highest peaks and bonus routes on adjacent Little Tahoma Washington's third highest peak

*Exceptional Mountains* Oliver Alan Weltzien, 2016-08 Over the past 150 years people have flocked to the Pacific Northwest in increasing numbers in part due to the region's beauty and one of its most exceptional features volcanoes. This segment of the Pacific Ring of Fire has shaped not only the physical landscape of the region but also the psychological landscape and with it the narratives we compose about ourselves. *Exceptional Mountains* is a cultural history of the Northwest volcanoes and the environmental impact of outdoor recreation in this region. It probes the relationship between these volcanoes and regional identity particularly in the era of mass mountaineering and population growth in the Northwest. Oliver Alan Weltzien demonstrates how mountaineering is but one conspicuous example of the outdoor recreation industry's unrestricted and problematic growth. He explores the implications of our assumptions that there are no limits to our outdoor recreation habits and that access to the highest mountains should include amenities for affluent consumers. Each chapter probes the mountain based regional ethos and the concomitant sense of privilege and entitlement from different vantages to illuminate the consumerist mind set as a reductive and deeply problematic version of experience and identity in and around some of the nation's most striking mountains.

**National Parks Beyond the Nation** Adrian Howkins, Jared Orsi, Mark Fiege, 2016-03-31 The idea of a national park was an American invention of historic consequences marking the beginning of a worldwide movement the U.S. National Park Service asserts in its 2006 Management Policies. *National Parks beyond the Nation* brings together the work of fifteen scholars and writers to reveal the tremendous diversity of the global national park experience an experience sometimes influencing sometimes influenced by and sometimes with no reference whatever to the United States. Writer and historian Wallace Stegner once called national parks America's best idea. The contributors to this volume use that exceptionalist claim as a starting point for thinking about an international history of national parks. They explore the historical interactions and influences intellectual political and material within and between national park systems in Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Indonesia, Antarctica, Brazil and other countries. What is the role of science in the history of these preserves Of politics What purposes do they serve Conservation Education Reverence toward nature Tourist pleasure People have thought differently about national parks at different times and in different places and neat physical boundaries have been disrupted by wandering animals human movements the spread of disease and climate change Viewing parks around the world at various scales and across national frontiers these essays offer a panoptic view of the common and contrasting cultural and environmental features of national parks worldwide. If national parks are as Stegner said absolutely American they are no less part of the world at large. *National Parks beyond the Nation* tells us as much about the multifarious and changing ideas of nature and culture as about the framing of those ideas in geographic temporal and national terms.

**1998 American Alpine Journal**, The American Alpine Journal is internationally acknowledged as the world's finest mountain climbing journal. Published annually since 1929 the AAJ offers incisive accounts of the previous year's significant climbs. The 1998 AAJ covers hundreds of the most remarkable ascents around the world with first person accounts deftly

drawn topos and dramatic photographs In addition the AAJ's book reviews including reports on the Everest Tragedy books provide readers with insightful critiques of the year's climbing literature **Washington's Mount Rainier National Park** Tim McNulty, 1998 Home to more than 120 alpine plant species three of which are found nowhere else in the world Mount Rainier remains a refuge for a diversity of flora and fauna It is also a magnet for the hundreds of thousands of people who live within sight of its snowy slopes and for millions of visitors who arrive from around the world each year O'Hara and McNulty explore the conflict this presents as park managers attempt to balance protection of the mountain's fragile ecosystems with the desires of the many who wish to seek solitude in its vast forests or challenge themselves on its daunting glaciers **Flora of Mount Rainier National Park** David Biek, 2000 Provides a virtually complete listing of the 871 native and introduced species of plants found in the Park with keys designed specifically for Mount Rainier National Park line drawings minimally technical descriptions for identification a guide to plant locations a glossary and a section of 64 color photographs Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR **Fire Mountains of the West** Stephen L. Harris, 2005 For general readers or seasoned geologists Fire Mountains of the West begins with an introduction to volcanoes the processes that create them and the glaciers that sculpt them The heart of the book is a fascinating biography of each of the major volcanoes of the Cascades and Mono Lake area Dramatic photos and illuminating maps and diagrams illustrate the visible features and hidden activity of these volcanoes From the subterranean lava tube caves of the Medicine Lake volcano to the fire and ice formation of Mount Garibaldi from the cataclysmic collapse of Crater Lake to the incinerating blast of modern Mount St. Helens and from deadly volcanic gas presently killing trees at Mammoth Mountain to massive mudflows waiting to burst from Mount Rainier this book brings to life in dynamic crystal clear language the geologic story of our western mountainscape **Climbing**, 1997 **The Great Northwest Nature Factbook** Ann Salinger, 1999 A guide to the natural wonders of Washington Oregon and Idaho covering animals plants and geographic features **Historic Sites and Landmarks That Shaped America** Mitchell Newton-Matza, 2016-09-06 Exploring the significance of places that built our cultural past this guide is a lens into historical sites spanning the entire history of the United States from Acoma Pueblo to Ground Zero **Historic Sites and Landmarks That Shaped America** From Acoma Pueblo to Ground Zero encompasses more than 200 sites from the earliest settlements to the present covering a wide variety of locations It includes concise yet detailed entries on each landmark that explain its importance to the nation With entries arranged alphabetically according to the name of the site and the state in which it resides this work covers both obscure and famous landmarks to demonstrate how a nation can grow and change with the creation or discovery of important places The volume explores the ways different cultures viewed revered or even vilified these sites It also examines why people remember such places more than others Accessible to both novice and expert readers this well researched guide will appeal to anyone from high school students to general adult readers **The Publishers Weekly**, 1997 **Desert Rims to Mountains High** Richard F. Fleck, 2013-09-04 Inspired by his

ranger days in Rocky Mountain National Park more than forty five years ago as well as more recent rambles Richard Fleck has created these descriptive essays that take readers from shimmering desert heat to snowy summits Fleck has expanded his acclaimed book *Breaking Through the Clouds* 2004 to create a new book that concentrates on the intermountain American West This edition includes counterpoint experiences in the desert canyon lands and dry prairie far below the summits of the lofty peaks such as Death Valley Grand Gulch Grand Canyon and the Great Sand Dunes His literary model was Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire* and his intent is to involve readers with an equally potent but different kind of natural reality Fleck says After all do not mountains rise out of deserts and dry lands Mountains and surrounding deserts should not be separated The mountains are a constant source of spiritual renewal for this author enabling him to become more aware and whole     **Subject Guide to Books in Print** ,1991     **Civilization** ,2000 The magazine of the Library of Congress

**The Utne Reader** ,1999     *Current Contents* Institute for Scientific Information (Philadelphia),1999     *Onearth* ,2006  
**Mother Jones** ,2001

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