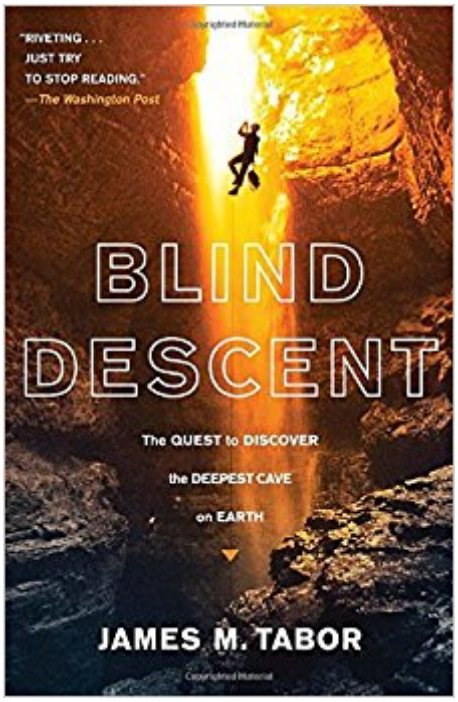
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Blind Descent: The Quest To Discover The Deepest Cave On Earth



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

In 2004, two great scientist-explorers attempted to find the bottom of the world. American Bill Stone took on the vast, deadly Cheve Cave in southern Mexico. Ukrainian Alexander Klimchouk targeted Krubera, a freezing nightmare of a supercave in the war-torn former Soviet republic of Georgia. Both men spent months almost two vertical miles deep, contending with thousand-foot drops, raging whitewater rivers, monstrous waterfalls, mile-long belly crawls, and the psychological horrors produced by weeks in absolute darkness, beyond all hope of rescue. Based on his unprecedented access to logs and journals as well as hours of personal interviews, James Tabor has crafted a thrilling exploration of manÃ¢â ¬â„¢s timeless urge to discoverÃ¢â ¬â •and of two extraordinary men whose pursuit of greatness led them to the heights of triumph and the depths of tragedy. Blind Descent is an unforgettable addition to the classic literature of true-life adventure, and a testament to human survival and endurance.Includes a 16-pg black and white insert

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks; Reprint edition (February 15, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0812979494

ISBN-13: 978-0812979497

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 153 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #149,182 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÃ Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Caving & Spelunking #43 inÃ Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Extreme Sports #172 inÃ Â Books > History > World > Expeditions & Discoveries

Customer Reviews

Best Books of the Month, June 2010: Set in impenetrable darkness, James M. Tabor’s Blind Descent is as awe-inspiring as any adventure story above ground. Tabor’s claustrophobic and pulse-pounding narrative follows two of the world’s premier cavers--American Bill Stone and Ukrainian Alexander Klimchouk--as they race to explore Earth’s deepest caves, swimming through steering wheel-sized tunnels and scaling rock walls slick with spring runoff. Caving is dirty and dangerous work, and Tabor pulls no punches in describing the many terrifying hazards that cavers face underground, including falling rocks, hypothermia, starvation, nitrogen narcosis, hallucinations,

hypoxia, and deadly anxiety attacks. He captures the eerie mixture of excitement and horror that accompanies life in extreme environments, while shedding light on the ineffable and complex moral code that governs men and women in places where survival is hoped for, but never guaranteed. Blind Descent is a captivating summer read for adventure seekers and armchair adrenaline junkies alike. --Lynette Mong --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Starred Review. Tabor, a former contributing editor at Outside magazine and author of Forever on the Mountain, contrasts two sterling teams, one American and the other Russian, in their perilous search to locate the deepest supercave on earth. While the book dwells largely on the obsessive, authoritative American star caver, Bill Stone, the writer gives just enough ink to the bold Soviet team counterpart ,Alexander Klimchouk, and his fair-but-firm leadership in his expeditions into the subterranean world. However, the personalities of the adventurers aside, it's the fascinating information of the big supercave treks that holds the reader to his seat, containing dangers aplenty with deadly falls, killer microbes, sudden burial, asphyxiation, claustrophobia, anxiety, and hallucinations far underneath the ground in a lightless world. Using a pulse-pounding narrative, this is tense real-life adventure pitting two master cavers mirroring the cold war with very uncommonly high stakes. (June) Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Tabor does a great job of telling the true story of the international push for the deepest cave in the world. Described, in detail, that almost puts you in the cave, and certainly in the mind, of the leaders of the expeditions. I found it extremely interesting how Tabor compared/contrasted the leaders and what drove them while continuing to use the caves as the third set of characters. I was 50 pages in before I realized it was non-fiction. I was hooked either way.I accidentally purchased this, thinking it was the first Hallie Leland novel, as I enjoyed Frozen Solid immensely. After reading this, I will be buying Deep Zone and expect it to be great just based on Blind Descent. If the truth is this good, I can't wait to see what Tabor's imagination does with it.

Blind Descent is the story of the obscure international competition to find the deepest cave on earth. We meet Bill Stone, a career spelunker, who explores supercaves in Mexico including Hualta and Cheve over decades. And Alexander Klimchouk who descends into Krubera cave in Abkhazia. The stories delve into the difficulties of spelunking including technical and psychological issues. There are underground rivers, gorges, waterfalls and sumps.Stone's obscession with Hualta cave and the

difficult San Augustin sump leads him to invent a rebreathing scuba system that creates controversy when an expedition member, Ian Rolland, an experienced cave diver dies suddenly trying to crack the sump. The author belabors the issue unnecessarily, mostly because numerous expedition members and others implicate the rebreathing system in Rolland's death. However, when Stone and his girlfriend, novice cave diver Barbara am Ende, crack the sump with the same system Rolland used it becomes clear that Stone's rebreather is revolutionary despite its complexity.The title of deepest cave eventually goes to Krubera and Klimchouk's team.The book is filled with the technically difficulties of descending into deep supercave systems. The story is well written and exhaustively researched however it does ramble on at times and perseverates over some issues that can be dealt with in one paragraph. Still, it is a worthwhile read and a window into the underworld exploits of spelunkers.

After reading quite a few books on some of the world's most alluring and deadly mountains --- Everest, K2 -- and books on climbing to the highest parts of earth, this presented an interesting counterpoint. Tabor captures the world of deep cave diving and the world of extreme spelunkers attempting to explore the deepest caves the world has to offer.Bring together no personal experience exploring caves and without any knowledge on the subject, I found "Blind Descent" to be a fascinating and at times a nerve wracking read. The individuals who pursue these caves possess some of the same characteristics as world class mountain climbers, except they enjoy spending their time in the dark, burrowing through rocks, descending giant waterfalls and into sinkholes and looking for air pockets that might lead to new, unexpored passages.There are times when it can be a bit difficult to make a mental image of what Tabor is describing, especially without exprience exploring caves and without pictures (completely realize why there aren't) but overall, "Blind Descent" makes for a fascinating read about some of the least explored and least hospitable parts of the earth.

I love books of this kind, so I'm a bit partial.But I loved the way Tabor framed this story as a race between two very different explorers, in very different environments, with very different management styles, temperament, and personalities.Could the book have used a little editing? Sure.I also would have liked more pictures and maps, or perhaps that's just an issue with the Kindle edition -- I'm not sure.But in the whole I would recommend this book as a look at a relatively unknown yet massive achievement, which happened just a few years ago while no one was really paying attention.

Fascinating read and well written. So few adventures left to be found and this rates right up there with the best of them.

I’m a big fan of any sort of non-fiction book about the survival ability of human beings in extreme environments. I’ve read books about Everest, Antarctica, the , and Outer Space... and now I will be adding ’inner space’ to the list. And it turns out that this story of deep caves and the people who feel the need to explore them is one of the most exciting books that I have ever read! I couldn’t stop turning pages, late into the night, until I finished this one.Blind Descent follows the journey of two high profile ’cavers’: Bill Stone of America and Alexander Klimchouk from the Ukraine. We hear about their struggles through deadly cave networks, their drive to push their expeditions deeper through personal risk, scientific research, and almost unimaginable bravery. This book is filled with harsh stories of how dangerous these supercaves can truly be. The almost alien cave world is well described, and I really did feel at times that my dark bedroom illuminated by Kindle light was actually some cavern chamber thousands of feet below the Earth. Thankfully I don’t have to worry about navigating a 500 foot cliff or scuba diving my way through a pitch black world of sudden dead-ends and surprise waterfalls. I have nothing but respect for the cavers in this book.If you’re into tales of exploration at all, then I’d highly recommend this book. I don’t have many negative comments at all. The only thing I can think of is that there are some photos in the Kindle edition of this book, but the small black and white doesn’t really do these supercaves justice - so I went online to check out a bunch of photos. I’d highly recommend doing this if you get into the book.UPDATE: I just noticed that Bill Stone (one of the major players in this book) did a talk about cave exploration on TED. It’s really interesting and provides a bunch of cool visuals. Here’s the link if you want to check it out:[...]

Download to continue reading...

Blind Descent: The Quest to Discover the Deepest Cave on Earth Blind Descent: The Quest to Discover the Deepest Place on Earth Beyond the Deep: The Deadly Descent into the World’s Most Treacherous Cave Tremble: Blind Faith? or Just Blind? Blind Allegiance (Viking Romance) (The Blind Series Book 1) My Path Leads to Tibet: The Inspiring Story of HowOne Young Blind Woman Brought Hope to the Blind Children of Tibet Man Cave: Design Your Den: Everything You Need to Know to Design Your Own Man Cave Beyond Mammoth Cave: A Tale of Obsession in the World’s Longest Cave Cave Diving Survey and Mapping (Cave Diving eManuals Book 1) Cave Exploring: The Definitive Guide to Caving Technique, Safety, Gear, and Trip Leadership (Falcon Guides Cave Exploring) The Essentials of Cave Diving: Jill Heinerth’s Guide to Cave Diving The Man Cave

Cookbook: Super Snacks: 50 Awesome Game Day Recipes (The Man Cave Cookbook Series 2) TWENTY THOUSAND YEARS IN A CAVE (Cave Divers Series Book 1) 10 Best - Riviera Maya - Traverses: Cave Diving Guide for Cave Divers in Mexico (10 Best Riviera Maya Traverses) Dark Life: Martian Nanobacteria, Rock-Eating Cave Bugs, and Other Extreme Organisms of Inner Earth and Outer Space Into the Earth: A Wine Cave Renaissance Stone Houses and Earth Lords: Maya Religion in the Cave Context (Mesoamerican Worlds) The Council of Light: Divine Transmissions for Manifesting the Deepest Desires of the Soul Movies Are Prayers: How Films Voice Our Deepest Longings Made to Crave: Satisfying Your Deepest Desire with God, Not Food

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help