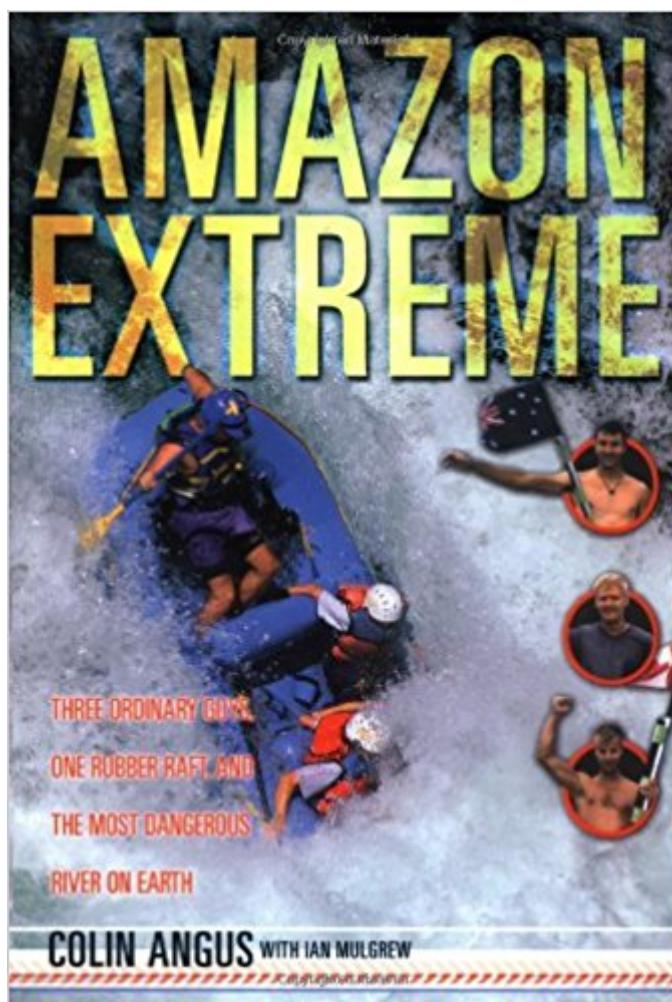


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Extreme: Three Ordinary Guys, One Rubber Raft And The Most Dangerous River On Earth



Synopsis

The true story of three enthusiastic (but inexperienced) adventurers who attempt to become the first team to raft the entire length of the Riverâ "all 4,007 miles--and (barely) live to tell about it. To a trio of twenty-something adrenaline junkies, it sounded like an irresistible challenge: tackle the with nothing more than a rubber raft between them and fate. But when Colin Angus, Ben Kozel, and Scott Borthwick embarked on their fantastic voyage in September 1999, just climbing to the riverâ "s source nearly killed them. Beginning with the dehydration that nearly did the adventurers in as they hiked the Andes to the river's source, Extreme is a breathtaking account of the daily challenges, dangers, and triumphs experienced over the course of this five-month expedition. With no money to speak of and inaccurate, fifty-year-old maps to guide them, this intrepid trio manages to persevere through violent rapids, guerilla gunfire, mosquito-infested drinking water, and numerous bouts of sickness. But in spite of several near-death experiences, including one particularly terrifying moment when their raft is toppled in the raging white water, Angus's crew finds a reverence for the compelling beauty that makes this region so renowned. Amidst the hardship are moments of pure pleasure, from graceful dolphins and lush forests to the intriguing, gracious people whoâ "ve made their homes along the riverbank. An inspiring tale of courage and exploration, this is the story of three guys who truly went off the deep end, and one who came back to write a riveting recollection of it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Several years ago, I read Joe Kane's "Running the " and I was interested to hear how Angus'

journey compared. Not surprisingly "Extreme" proved to be every bit as exciting. The part that intrigued me the most was their budget. These three young men had just over ten thousand dollars for the entire five month journey - and that included their transportation and equipment. It is easy to see that the sheer determination of these men is what carried them across the South American Continent in one piece. For those of you who read this book, prepare to be inspired. Perhaps the writing isn't the best in the world, but the non-stop adventure more than makes up for it. Definitely worth reading!

I had no idea that the was anything other than a flat meandering river flowing through the South American jungle. When my wife first gave me this book, I thought, 'so what? some guys went down a river.' I had no idea that only a select few have ever achieved this feat and that it was so incredibly difficult. Angus paints a magical picture of beauty and fear as they navigate the 's treacherous headwaters. Snow-capped mountains, raging whitewater and excellent team-dynamics weave together to create a story like no other. I would definitely recommend this book to adventurers or adventurers at heart.

Some of the reviewers of this book complain about the quality of the writing, but this is an adventure story told by the young men who lived it. It is not a work of great literature told by experienced professional authors, nor was it meant to be. Consequently, I did not find the quality of writing at all poor. It was, in fact, exhilarating throughout to read these hair raising adventures. I've been on many whitewater rafting trips, organized, and, to some extent, "Disneyfied." I've even fallen out of a raft in the middle of a Class V rapid. That was excitement enough for me! Yet, I would go on such a trip again at a moment's notice. However, to attempt what these three young men did is both exceedingly brave and exceedingly foolish, and such bravery and such foolishness makes an exciting journey and an exciting read. I commend the men who so rashly went on the journey, and thank them for giving us this souvenir of their adventure.

This is a great, fun read, full of mad adventure and foolish derring-do. It's about floating down the , but really, the best part is in the beginning, before they even get to the . They actually dip their toes in the Pacific Ocean and then hike over the Andes to find the source of the before they even get into the raft. Hiking the Andes and finding the source was the most interesting part. By the time they actually get into the , most of the adventure is done, and Angus has to work pretty hard to generate some excitement. Anyway, I loved it. I didn't give it five stars just because, well, because it's kind of

thin. Not a weighty read, exactly. But so what? Loads of fun. Great read.

I came across this book at my local library and decided to check it out as my husband and I are whitewater canoeists and have travelled (some) in Peru. Wow! A very good read. Then I decided this would be a great gift for my son-in-law. He has done a little canoeing with us and has done a lot of mountain climbing and back-country adventures. This will be one of his birthday gifts next week. I know he will enjoy it as we did.

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