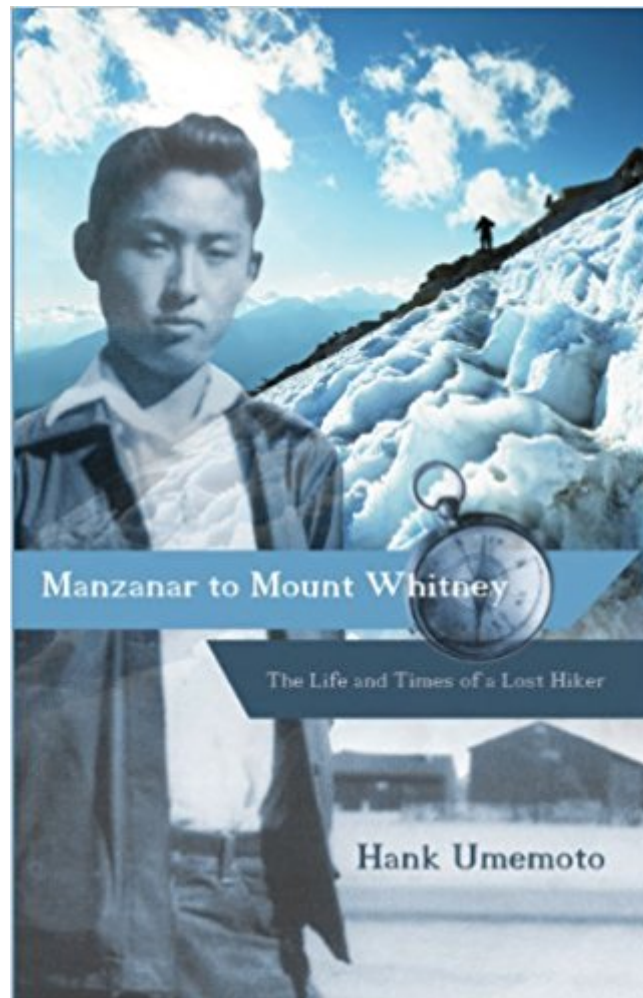




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Manzanar To Mount Whitney: The Life And Times Of A Lost Hiker



Synopsis

In 1942, fourteen-year-old Hank Umemoto gazed out a barrack window at Manzanar Internment Camp, saw the silhouette of Mount Whitney against an indigo sky, and vowed that one day he would climb to the top. Fifty-seven years and a lifetime of stories later, at the age of seventy-one, he reached the summit. Part memoir and part hiker's diary, *Manzanar to Mount Whitney* gives an intimate, rollicking account of Japanese American life in California before and after World War II. As he wanders through the mountains of California's Inland Empire, Umemoto recalls pieces of his childhood on a grape vineyard in the Sacramento Valley, his time at Manzanar, where beauty and hope were maintained despite the odds, and his later career as proprietor of a printing firm, all with grace, honesty, and unfailing humor. And all along, the peak of Mount Whitney casts its shadow, a symbol of freedom, beauty, and resilience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The author's ability to weave his memories in and out while on his various hiking excursions is quite unique. How many times have we experienced similar situation where certain events will recall past events; (good and bad). Past events (good or bad) shape our character; and in this book, it is quite obvious the events leading to, during and after WWII have shaped the author's character to never give up. Good book.

This book was just ok. I really enjoyed the stories of his hiking, as I've hiked in a lot of the same areas, but the book was definitely in need of better editing. The stories were interesting, but the

jumping around wasn't finessed enough, and got distracting. There were also random details that didn't need to be included and that weren't followed through with (his friends wanting him to go visit geishas with them, etc.) that just distracted from the theme. All in all, I'm glad I read it, but wish it had more experienced editing.

I was also in a camp in Colorado. I was too young to understand what was going on so his memories helped me understand the time and feelings of someone older.

Conquering a climb to the top of Mt. Whitney and his interesting comparisons to his struggles through life is a very satisfying story.

I really enjoyed reading this book. I was surprised that he made so many mistakes in life and in hiking that he recovered from, but I give him props for trying! I liked the way he told his stories.

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