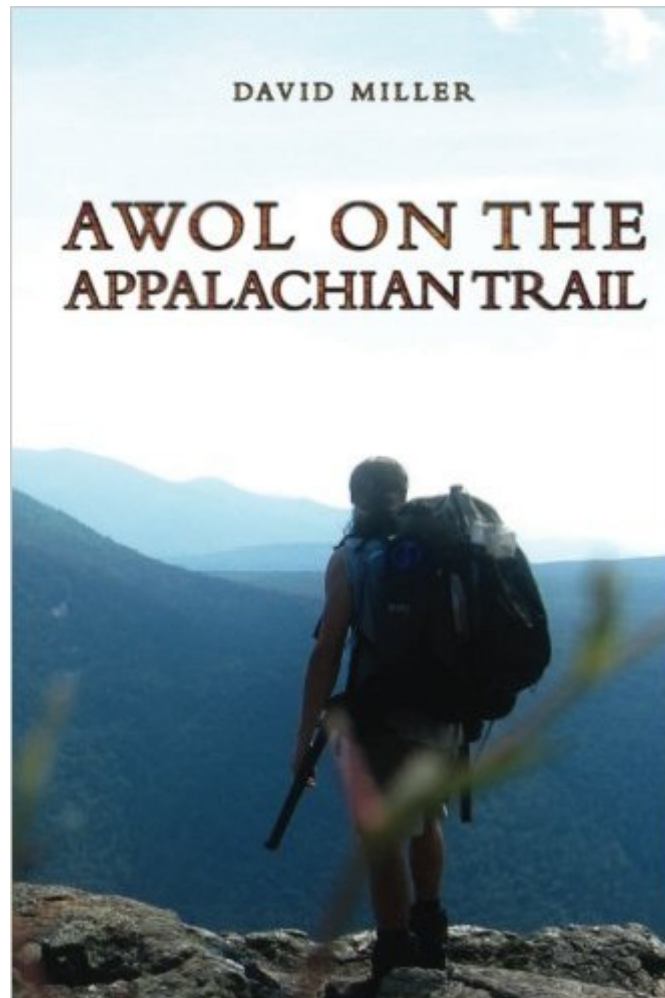


The book was found

AWOL On The Appalachian Trail



Synopsis

“Makes you feel the pain and joy of an Appalachian Trail thru-hike . . . In vivid colors, David paints a picture of his memorable journey.” —Larry Luxenberg, president of the Appalachian Trail Museum Society In 2003, David Miller left his job, family, and friends to fulfill a dream and hike the Appalachian Trail. *AWOL on the Appalachian Trail* is Miller’s account of this thru-hike along the entire 2,172 miles from Georgia to Maine. On page after page, readers are treated to rich descriptions of the valleys and mountains, the isolation and reverie, the inspiration that fueled his quest, and the life-changing moments that can only be experienced when dreams are pursued. While this book abounds with introspection and perseverance, it also provides useful passages about safety and proper gear, showing a professional hiker’s preparations and tenacity. This is not merely a travel guide, but a beautifully written and highly personal view into one man’s adventure and what it means to make a lifelong vision come true.

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books; Reprint edition (November 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547745524

ISBN-13: 978-0547745527

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (1,586 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,064 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping > Excursion Guides #30 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping > Instructional #31 in Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Travel

Customer Reviews

To read this story is to live a vicarious adventure. Pick up the book, and boom, you’re there. You feel the mist in your face, the cold mountain air in the morning, the sights and sounds of the wilderness, the rough, uneven terrain over root and rock, the smell of plants and earth, the taste of spring water, the setting sun chucking its final spears of the day into pastel clouds on the horizon, the taste of camp food, the familiar smell of sleeping bags and drying socks, and the weariness of body that imparts a sound sleep (or not). At times you’re a solitary soul traversing the length of the

Colonies from South to North, alone but for the company of your thoughts, and the family back home that is pulling for you, waiting for you, loving you from afar. Other times you feel the comraderie of intersecting lives on the same trek, and the shared experiences along your way. "Oases of civilization" dot the journey, replete with many ordinary and some strange characters, and urban adventures that stand in stark contrast to the life that lies just beyond the town, where the trail picks up and nature reigns again. The book is this and more. You finish the book and the pervasive thought that transcends even the wonderful story, the description of Pop Tarts surviving a nasty fall, the love of nature and humanity, and the overpowering sense of accomplishment but not wanting it to end, is the thought that this was an ordinary person stepping out without skipping out. This thought that a regular person with a regular life and responsibilities can accomplish this extraordinary thing, starting with resolve and a few unsure baby steps, is a thought that lingers long after the book is back on the shelf. This thought is like a small voice telling you that he did it and I can do it, too.

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