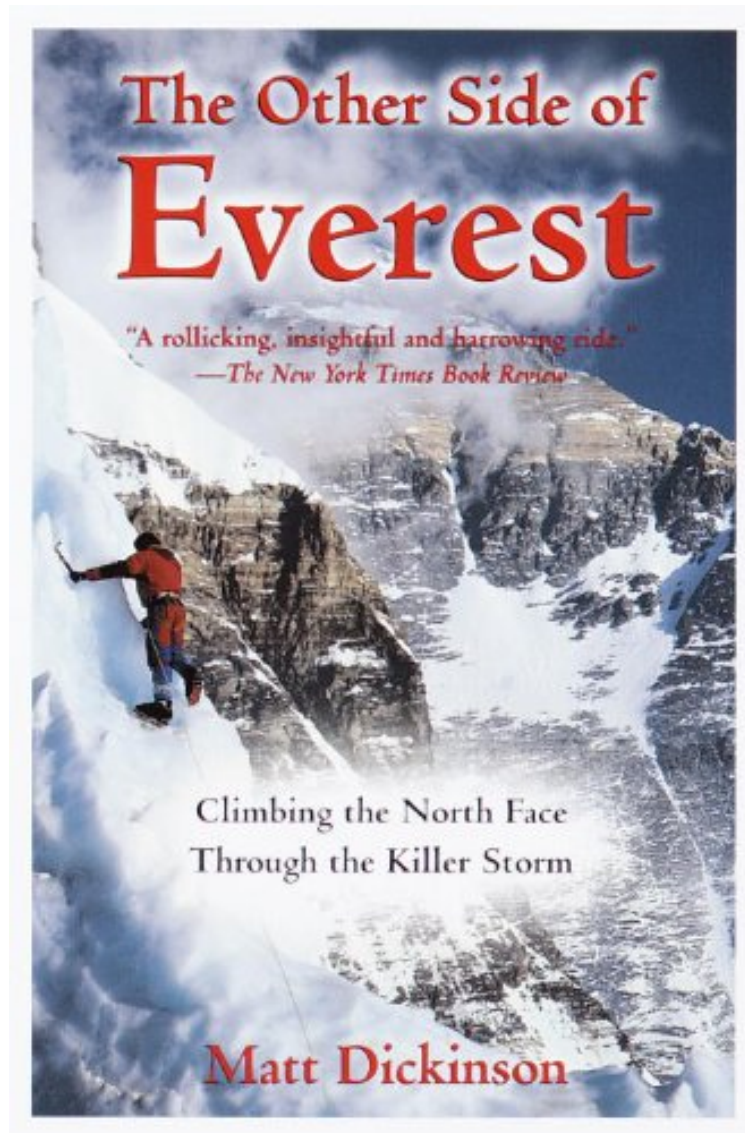


[Free download] The Other Side of Everest: Climbing the North Face Through the Killer Storm

## The Other Side of Everest: Climbing the North Face Through the Killer Storm

*Matt Dickinson*

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**Matt Dickinson : The Other Side of Everest: Climbing the North Face Through the Killer Storm** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Other Side of Everest: Climbing the North Face Through the Killer Storm:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I held my breath throughout the final ascentBy C. EnglishWow, this story is riveting. The detail is splendid, much more than any other Everest books I've read. I felt that I'd climbed this mountain right beside Matt! And good grief, the descent as well. I looked up photos on the web to grasp the route, the

Steps and ridge; who does this for fun? It seems utterly impossible.<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great account of climbing Mt. Everest with a detailed look at what it's like to be on the mountain from someone who was new to scaling an 8000-meter peak and never really expected to end up there. With Dickinson's skilled recounting of many small day-to-day details, this book really helps the reader visualize what it's like to be there. One of my favorite Everest books.<sup>4</sup> of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good travel companion By Yuri K. This book is well written and quite enjoyable. Facts and authors' comments are well balanced, and there's plenty of good British humour. As drawbacks I would like to name the following: 1. The subtitle is misleading, since the author's group did not summit Everest during the storm of May 10th; they did this on May 19th, more than a week after the storm. 2. Unfortunately, M.D. repeats Krakauer's absurd accusations of Anatoli Boukreev's who, according to J.K., was "dressed too lightly," "had to use oxygene" etc. At the same time, the author's own description of Rob Hall's death leaves the reader little doubt that had Boukreev stayed on top instead of quickly returning to the camp, he would most likely had to stay with dying Scott Fisher and die with him the same way Rob Hall could not leave Doug Hansen and died next to him. Such scenario also would have resulted in most certain death of climbers in the "dogpile" who were otherwise saved by Boukreev (except for Yatsuko Namba). Well, as one reviewer of "K-19" movie pointed out, "Nobody needs heroic Russians."<sup>3</sup>. The illustrations in the book are B/W, which is so 60s.

May 1996 began like most other climbing seasons on Mount Everest. The arrival of spring brought the usual pre-monsoon period, with teams of hopeful mountaineers ready to reach for the roof of the world. Among the dozens of climbers were Jon Krakauer and Anatoli Boukreev (who would both later write their own accounts of what followed) and Matt Dickinson. But on May 10, with ten different expeditions strung out along the mountain, the usual turned deadly. Suddenly, the temperature dropped from merely frigid to 40 degrees below zero. A killer storm with howling winds swept in and climbers were soon blinded in white-out conditions. Before it was over, the blizzard would claim a dozen lives, the worst loss of life in the modern history of climbing on Everest. Dickinson, an adventure filmmaker, was part of an expedition challenging the treacherous North Face of Everest, on the Tibetan side. Of the nearly 700 people who have scaled Everest since the first ascent in 1953, barely 230 have managed to ascend via the colder and technically more difficult route up the North Face. In addition to climbing through the storm, which would test him beyond his imagining, Dickinson also filmed the ascent. He and his team watched in awe as violent clouds gathered over the mountain and swept them all up in a frightening white force. Dickinson was a relative novice who had never climbed at this crushing altitude, and the storm preyed on his mind, throwing into question his entire mission. Despite this uncertainty and the treacherous conditions, Dickinson and his partner Alan Hinkes continued their climb, compelled to reach the summit. Dickinson's first-person narrative--the only account of the killer storm written by a climber who was on the North Face--places the reader amid the swirl of the catastrophe, while providing rare insight into the very essence of mountaineering. *The Other Side of Everest* is a portrait of personal triumph set against the most disastrous storm to ever befall the world mountaineering community. Anyone who has ever pushed beyond familiar limits of physical and psychological endurance will cherish this book. From the Hardcover edition.

.com On May 10, 1996, a paralyzing storm killed 12 climbers on Mt. Everest, disfigured many others, and put the peak back on its lofty throne. While the disaster on the South Face has received nearly all of the publicity, most notably in Jon Krakauer's *Into Thin Air* and Anatoli Boukreev's *The Climb*, *The Other Side of Everest* details a novice's remarkable ascent through that same storm on the colder and more difficult North Face. With alarming details, author and cameraman Matt Dickinson describes the horror of the extreme altitude and crippling storm: the hunger, pain, fear, and exhaustion. At one point, the party comes face to face with failure: "As we stepped over the legs of the corpse to continue along the Ridge, we crossed an invisible line in the snow--and an invisible line of commitment in our own minds." For most of the journey, it must be said, Dickinson is uncomfortable with himself and his surroundings. But his honesty is refreshing. Through his travails, he develops a reverence for a mountain that demands respect, and as a result, the occasional moments of epiphany so central to the genre still retain a ring of truthfulness. Adventure buffs will welcome this addition to the Everest library. --Ben Tiffany From School Library Journal YA--Dickinson, who was hired by a high-adventure company to produce a movie about an ascent of Everest by a major British film star, is not a professional high-altitude climber. However, he is a fine writer with a style somewhere between the tight and intense passages of Jon Krakauer's *Into Thin Air* (Villard) and the ponderous, technical treatment in Anatoli Boukreev's much longer *The Climb* (St. Martin's, both 1997). He writes of actually making it to the summit up the North Face with a simplicity and wonder lacking in Everest accounts written by those who spend their lives climbing the world's highest peaks. As a filmmaker, he gives the book visual power. This title will hold readers in its icy grip from beginning to end. Cynthia J. Rieben, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal A powerful account of the filmmaker/author's successful ascent to the summit of the North Face during a storm that devastated the world mountaineering community, written with the wonder of an amateur

