



# One Mountain Thousand Summits: The Untold Story of Tragedy and True Heroism on K2

By Freddie Wilkinson

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*The account of one of the deadliest and most mysterious tragedies in mountaineering history-the 2008 K2 disaster.*

***One Mountain Thousand Summits*** reveals the true story of the **K2** tragedy that claimed the lives of eleven men. Based on his numerous trips to Nepal and in-depth interviews he conducted with the survivors, the families of the lost climbers, and the Sherpa guides whose heroic efforts saved the lives of at least four climbers, Freddie Wilkinson's narrative uncovers what actually occurred on the mountain, while delivering a criticism of the mainstream press's incomplete coverage of the event, and an insightful look into the lives of the six Sherpas who were involved.

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**One Mountain Thousand Summits: The Untold Story of Tragedy and True Heroism on K2** By Freddie Wilkinson **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Wilkinson, a veteran alpinist and mountaineering scribe, closely examines the mysterious tragedy that cost the lives of 11 men on the unforgiving K2, the world's second highest mountain, on August 2008, in his new book. Interviewing not only the survivors and the families of the victims but the heroic Sherpa guides in Nepal, he gives the daunting legacy of the challenging terrain and a blow-by-blow account, with clinical accuracy and detail, of the disaster that nearly wiped out the international climbing team. Wilkinson also describes what makes an experienced climber challenge himself to risk death using his technical skills, endurance, and mental stamina while battling bone-chilling cold, altitude sickness, and avalanches. In this powerful rendering of a well-publicized grim event, there is so much said about the courage and heroism of the climbers braving these geological wonders and the media's silence over the neglected native saviors. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"[A] high altitude thrill ride."

-Nick Heil, Author of *Dark Summit: The True Story of Everest's Most Controversial Season*

"From the very start, I found *One Mountain Thousand Summits* riveting."

-Conrad Anker, Co-author of *The Last Explorer: Finding Mallory on Mt. Everest*

"The gritty oeuvre is not only intensely captivating, but also the most comprehensive and introspective account of the disastrous events that took place on **K2** [in 2008]."

-*Alpinist*

*One Mountain Thousand Summits* delves deeply and without hyperbole into what is really happening to high-altitude mountaineering."

-Ed Douglas, Author of *Tenzig: Hero of Everest*

"The book is moving and it succeeds thematically. *One Mountain Thousand Summits* finally offers hope that human dignity can prevail in the rarefied air above eight thousand meters."

-*Rock and Ice*

"Wilkinson focuses on the generally unsung guides and porters employed by the ill-fated 2008 expeditions, including a potted history of the Sherpas."

-*Financial Times*

"Freddie Wilkinson is one of his generation's best and most articulate mountaineers. **K2** can be a savage mountain. Imagine yourself above 28,000 feet, in a storm, in the dark, and an avalanche has swept away your fixed ropes. Survival is on the line. Is it every man for himself or do you risk it all to help another? There is not one better to search for answers and relive the greatest drama on the world's most dramatic mountain than Freddie. This is a must read for climbers or for anyone who wants to know what it feels like to push yourself to the very edge and the lessons we can learn about ourselves and humanity from extreme adventure."

-Geoff Tabin, Author of *Blind Corners: Adventures on Seven Continents*

"In his *One Mountain Thousand Summits*, Freddie Wilkinson tells us what really happened high on K2 in

August 2008 when eleven climbers lost their lives... Especially compelling is the credence Wilkinson gives to the surviving Sherpas' version of events and the way he weaves the affected families and loved ones into this amazing story of survivors and heroes. This is a must read because it illuminates the most complex and tragic two days in the mountain's history."

-Jim Wickwire, Coauthor of *Addicted to Danger* and the first American (with Lou Reichardt) to summit K2

"*One Mountain Thousand Summits* is both a high-altitude thrill ride and an eloquent meditation on our infatuation with - and frequent misunderstanding of - individuals driven to climb to the highest places on earth. Thanks to Wilkinson's tenacious investigation, narrated with uncommon skill and grace, he has produced the definitive account of the much debated 2008 disaster on K2."

-Nick Heil, Author of *Dark Summit: The True Story of Everest's Most Controversial Season*

"In a single two-day period, eleven climbers lost their lives on K2. In a mystery clouded by the haze of exhaustion, thin air, and poor communication we are left to wonder: What happened on August 1-2, 2008? With an insider's knowledge of Himalayan climbing, Wilkinson goes deep into the lives of the climbers and particularly the Sherpas on this fateful climb to produce a book that should be essential reading for those wanting to understand the disaster. From the very start, I found *One Mountain Thousand Summits* riveting."

"Wilkinson is a talented alpinist himself, as well as an enquiring writer, and he takes nothing for granted... shrewdly structure to take full account of the Nepali climbers' and Sherpas' stories." --- --Conrad Anker, Coauthor of *The Last Explorer: Finding Mallory on Mt. Everest*

#### About the Author

**Freddie Wilkinson** is a New England-based professional climber, mountain guide, and outdoor writer. He has made numerous first ascents on difficult peaks in Alaska, Patagonia, and the Himalayas. In 2007, the American Alpine Club awarded him the Robert Hicks Bates Award for outstanding accomplishment by a young climber.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

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Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Yes, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled *One Mountain Thousand Summits: The Untold Story of Tragedy and True Heroism on K2*? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have some other opinion?

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**Irish Watts:**

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