“To this day mountain climbing remains the most literary of all sports. No other activity so compels its participants, from the international star to the weekend scrambler, to turn each personal conquest into a public tale.” Bruce Barcott, “Cliffhangers,” Harpers, August 1996

BOOKS ABOUT TRADITIONAL MOUNTAINEERING

BOOKS THAT WILL INSPIRE YOU TO CLIMB MOUNTAINS

Among the Alps with Bradford, Bradford Washburn, 1927
Scrambles Amongst the Alps, Edward Whymper, 1840-1911, re-published 1936, 1860-1869, 2002
Five Miles High, Robert H. Bates And Charles S. Houston, M.D., 1939
Annapurna, Maurice Herzog, 1952
The Conquest of Everest, Sir John Hunt, 1953
Starlight and Storm, Gaston Rebuffat, 1957
Americans on Everest, Norman Dyhrenfurth, 1963
Everest, The West Ridge, Thomas Hornbein, MD 1963 *
On Snow and Rock, Gaston Rebuffat, 1963
Conquistadors Of The Useless, Lionel Terray, 1963, 2001-2008
On The Heights, Walter Bonatti, 1964
Between heaven and Earth, Gaston Rebuffat, 1965
Men and the Matterhorn, Gaston Rebuffat, 1967
The Book of Modern Mountaineering, editor Malcolm Milne, 1968
Annapurna South Face, Chris Bonington, 1971
The Vertical World of Yosemite, editor Galen Rowell, 1974
Mountains, John Cleare, 1975
The White Spider, Heinrich Harrer, 1976, + 1976 paperback signed
Storm & Sorrow, Robert W. Craig, 1977
The Mountains of Canada, Randy Morse, 1978
Tales of a Western Mountaineer, CE Rusk, 1978 *
The Challenge of Rainier, Dee Molenaar, 1979 *
Fifty Classic Climbs of North America, Steve Roper, 1979 *
Many People Come Looking, Galen Rowell, 1980
The Last Step, the American Ascent of K2, Rick Ridgeway, 1980
Eiger, Wall of Death, Arthur Roth, 1982 +
Moments Of Doubt, David Roberts, 1986
K2, Triumph and Tragedy, Jim Curran, 1987
K2 The 1939 Tragedy, Andrew Kauffman& William Putnam, 1992
Cloud Dancers, Jonathon Waterman Editor, 1993
Heroic Climbs, Editor Chris Bonington, 1994
In The Zone, Peter Potterfield, 1996
A Fine Kind of Madness, Laura and Guy Waterman, 2000
John Muir Natures Visionary, Gretel Ehrlich for National Graphic Society, 2000
Brotherhood of the Rope, Biography of Charles Houston, Bernadette McDonald, 2007
Soul Of The Heights, Ed Cooper, 2007

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Mountaineering, the Freedom of the Hills, The Mountaineers, 1960 (please send me one)
Mountaineering, the Freedom of the Hills, The Mountaineers, 3rd edition, 1974
The Book of Modern Mountaineering, Malcolm Milne, editor, 1968
Bergsteigen, RC Aleith, 1975
The Leader’s Reference Book, editors Sierra Club, 1985
Mountaineering Basics, editor Lynne Foster, 1982
Mountaineering Training Committee Staff Handbook, editors Speik and Knudson, 1985
The Handbook of Climbing, Fyffe and Peter, 1997
NOLS Wilderness Mountaineering, Phil Powers, 1993
Extreme Alpinism, Mark Twight and James Martin, 1999 *

TRADITIONS AND ETHICS
The Great Pacific Iron Works Catalog, Yvon Chouinard, 1972 *
The Great Pacific Iron Works Catalog, Yvon Chouinard, 1974
Cloud Dancers, Portraits of North American Mountaineers, editor Jonathan Waterman, 1993
Beyond Risk, Conversations with Climbers, editor Nicholas O’Connell, 1993
On Belay, The Life and Legend of Paul Petzoldt, Raye Ringholz, 1997 +
Outdoor Leadership, John Graham, 1997
NOLS Climbing Instructor Notebook, editors Phil Powers and Micheal Cheek, 2000
Wilderness Risk Management Conference Proceedings, NOLS, Outward Bound and CSA, 2000
Dougal Haston The Philosophy of Risk, Jeff Conner, 2002

TRADITIONAL ROCK CLIMBING TECHNIQUES
Basic Rockcraft, Royal Robbins, 1971 *
Advanced Rockcraft, Royal Robbins, 1973 *
Basic Rock Climbing, Bergsteigen, Revised Edition, R. C. Aleith, 1975
Learning to Rock Climb, Michael Loughman, 1981
Rappelling, Tom Martin, 1985
How to Rappel, Craig Luebben, 2000
How to Rock Climb, John Long 1993 +
Climbing Anchors, John Long, 1993
Big Wall Climbing, Doug Scott, 1974
Big Walls, John Long and John Middendorf, 1994
Free Climbing with John Bachar, Bachar and Boga, 1996
The Handbook of Climbing, Allen Fyffe & Ian Peter, revised edition, 1997
Quick Clips, Climbing Magazine, 1997
Spirit of the Rock, Ron Kauk, 2003
Alpine Climbing: Techniques to Take You Higher, Mark Houston and Kathy Cosley, 2004
Rock Climbing: Mastering Basic Skills, Craig Luebben, 2004

CLIMBING MOUNTAIN SNOW, ROCK AND ICE
Climbing Ice, Yvon Chouinard, 1978, paper 1978 *
Icecraft, Norman Kingsley, 1975
Climbing Ice, Duane Raleigh, 1995
Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue, Andy Selters, 1990 +
Climbing Rock and Ice, Jerry Cinnamon, 1993
Rock and Ice Gear, Clyde Soles, Rock and Ice, 2000

ACCIDENT RESPONSE
International Mountain Rescue Handbook, Hamish MacInnes, 1972
CMC Rope Rescue Manual, editors Frank and Smith, 1992
Self-Rescue, David Fasulo, 1996 +
Close Calls, John Long, 1999
Lessons Learned, editor University of Alaska, 2000
Mountain Disasters, Hamish MacInnes Editor, 2003
Playing For Real, Stories From Rocky Mountain Rescue, Mark Scott-Nash, 2007

WILDERNESS MEDICINE
Backcountry First Aid and Extended Care, Buck Tilton, 1998 +
Wilderness Medical Society Practice Guidelines, WMS, 1997
Wilderness First Responder Text, Buck Tilton 1998 +
Medicine for the Backcountry, Buck Tilton, 1997
Don’t Get Sick, Buck Tilton, 1997
Medicine for Mountaineering, Wilkerson, 1961
Mountaineering First Aid, Dick Mitchell, 1972
Outward Bound Wilderness First Aid, Isaac and Goth, MD, 1994
Mountaineering Medicine, Fred Darvill, Jr., MD, 1992
How to Shit in the Woods, Kathleen Meyer, 1999
Altitude Illness: Prevention & Treatment, Stephen Bezruchka, M.D., 2005

HYPOTHERMIA AND FROST BITE
Hypothermia, Frostbite and Other Cold Injuries, Wilkerson, MD and Bangs, MD, 1986 +

SNOW TRAVEL
Snow Camping, editors Nordic World, 1974
Snow Caves, Ernest Wilkinson, 1992
The Basic Essentials of Avalanche Safety, Buck Tilton, 1992
Snow Sense, Jill Fredston and Doug Fesler, 1994
Allen and Mike’s Really Cool Backcountry Ski Book, O’Bannon and Clelland, 1996 +

BACKPACKING
The Thousand Mile Summer, Colin Fletcher, 1964
The Complete Walker, Colin Fletcher, 1968 +
The Man Who Walked Through Time, Colin Fletcher, 1971
Backpacking, One Step at a Time, Harvey Manning, 1972
Pleasure Pack’n, Robert Wood, 1972, For the 80s, Revised, 1980
The Majestic Rocky Mountains, William S. Ellis, 1976
NOLS Wilderness Guide, Simer and Sullivan, 1983
NOLS Soft Paths, Hampton and Cole, 1986
The Secret Worlds of Colin Fletcher, 1990
A Walk in the Woods, Bill Bryson, 1998
Journey on the Crest, Cindy Ross, 1987
Bear Aware, Bill Schneider, 1999
Beyond Backpacking, Ray Jardine, 2000
Winter Hiking & Camping, Backpacker Magazine, Michael Lanza, 2003
**BACKPACK COOKERY**  
Backpack Cookery, Ruth Mendenhall, 1966  
Food for Knapsackers, Hasse Brunnelle, 1971  
The Well-fed Backpacker, June Fleming, 1976  
Gorp, Glop and Glue Stew, editors Prater and Mendenhall, 1982  
Wilderness Ranger's Cookbook, editors Brunnelle and Swain, 1990  
Cooking the One Burner Way, Gray and Tilton, 1994  

**LOCAL HIKING GUIDES**  
Pacific Crest Trail, two volumes, Jeffery Schaffer, 1974  
60 Hiking Trails in the Central Oregon Cascades, Don and Roberta Lowe, 1978  
Ski Tours in Central Oregon, Virginia Meissner, 1984  
High Country of Central Oregon, Ray Hatton, 1987  
100 Hikes in the Central Oregon Cascades, William Sullivan, 1991  
The Hiker's Guide to Oregon, Donna Atikenhead, 1992  
Twenty-five Hikes along the Pacific Crest Trail, Don and Lolly Skillman, 1994  
100 Hikes in Eastern Oregon, William L. Sullivan, 2001  
100 Hikes in Southern Oregon, William L. Sullivan, 2003  

**BOOKS ON MOUNTAIN WEATHER**  
Bend Country Weather, Ray Hatton, 1990  
Northwest Mountain Weather, Jeff Renner, 1992  

**WILDERNESS CONCEPT**  
My First Summer in the Sierra, John Muir, 1911  
A Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold, 1949  
The Yosemite, John Muir, 1912, re-published 1962  
NOLS Soft Paths, editors Hampton and Cole, 1995  
Lightly on the Land, Robert Birkby, for the Student Conservation Association, 1996  

**BACKCOUNTRY NAVIGATION**  
Be Expert with Map and Compass, Bjorn Kjellstrom, 1955  
The Basic Essentials of Map and Compass, Cliff Jacobson, 1988  
Staying Found, June Fleming, 1994  
GPS Made Easy, Lawrence Letham, 1995  
Wilderness Navigation, Burns and Burns, 1999  
GPS Land Navigation, Michael Ferguson, 1997  
Using GPS, Bruce Grubbs, 1999  

**BOOKS ABOUT MT. EVEREST AND OTHER HIGH SUMMITS**  
Men Against The Clouds, Burdall Emmons Moore Young, 1935 (revised by Seattle Mountaineers 1980)  
British Mountaineers, F. S. Smythe, 1942  
The Ascent of Everest, John Hunt, 1953  
Karakoram – The Ascent of Gasherbrum IV, Fosco Maraini, 1961  
Four Against Everest, Woodrow Wilson Sayre, 1964  
Americans on Everest, Norman Dyhrenfurth, 1964  
Everest, the West Ridge, Thomas Hornbein, MD 1965  
The Ultimate Challenge, Chris Bonington, 1973  
The Shining Mountain, Peter Boardman, 1978  
The Boldest Dream, Rick Ridgeway, 1979
Expeditions To Nowhere, Paddy Sherman, 1981
Kongur China's Elusive Summit, Chris Bonington, 1982
Sacred Summits, Peter D. Boardman, 1982
The Shishapangma Expedition, Doug Scott & Alex MacIntyre, 1984
Everest Grand Circle, Ned Gillette and Jan Reynolds, 1985
White Limbo, Lincoln Hall, 1985
Thin Air, Greg Child, 1988
The Endless Knot, Kurt Diemberger, 1990
Blind Corners, Geoff Tabin, 1993
Beyond the Limits, Stacy Allison, 1993
Mount McKinley, Fred Beckey, 1993
Everest, Mountain Without Mercy, Broughton Coburn, 1996
The Measure Of A Mountain, Bruce Barcott, 1997
Dark Shadows Falling, Joe Simpson, 1997
The Climb, Anatoli Boukreev and G. DeWalt, 1997 +
The Other Side of Everest, Matt Dickinson, 1999
High Exposure, David Breashears (director), 1999 (made into movie)
Tibet's Secret Mountain, Chris Bonington and Charles Clarke, 1999
Ghosts of Everest, the Search for Mallory and Irvine, Hemmleb, Johnson and Simonson, 1999
Climbing High, Lene Gammelgaard, 1999
Life and Death on Mt. Everest, Sherry Ortner, 1999
The Ghosts of Everest, Hemmler, Johnson and Simonson, 1999 *
Fear No Boundary, Lincoln Hall & Sue Fear, 2005
Fallen Giants, Maurice Isserman & Stewart Weaver, 2008

CLIMBING GUIDE BOOKS
Footloose in the Swiss Alps, William Reifsnyder, 1974
Climber’s Guide to the High Sierra, Steve Roper, 1976
Cascade Alpine Guide, three volumes, Fred Becky, 1977
100 Hikes in the Alps, Spring and Edwards, 1979
Climber’s Guide to Joshua Tree, Wolf and Dominick, 1979
Joshua Tree National Monument, Robert Cates, 1984
Mexico’s Volcanoes, a Climbing Guide, RJ Secor, 1981
Oregon Rock, a Climbers Guide, Jeff Thomas, 1983
Oregon High, a Climbing Guide, Jeff Thomas, 1991 +
Summit Guide to the Cascade Volcanoes, Jeff Smoot, 1992
Selected Climbs in the Cascades, Nelson and Potterfield, 1993/
The Trad Guide To Joshua Tree, Charlie & Diane Winger, 2004
75 Scrambles in Oregon best non-technical ascents, Barbara I. Bond, 2005
Topos Huasteca,Hans Martinez, 2005
Thailand A Climbing Guide, Sam Lightner, 2005
Summits and Trails, Gary Yates, 2005

BOOKS ON THE CLIMBING LIFE
I Chose to Climb, Christian Bonington, 1966
The Next Horizon, Chris Bonington, 1976
The Games Climbers Play, editor Ken Wilson, 1978 +
A walk In the Sky, Nicholas Clinch, 1982
Seven Summits, Bass, Wells and Rick Ridgeway, 1986
Stehekin, Grant McConnell, 1988
Eiger Dreams, John Krakauer, 1990 *
A Climber's Life, Reinhold Messner, 1991
Royal Robbins, Spirit of the Age, Pat Ament, 1992
Stories Off The Wall, John Roskelley, 1993
The Burgess Book of Lies, Adrian and Alan Burgess, 1994 (cloth) + 1998 (paper)
Camp 4, Recollections of a Yosemite Rock Climber, Steve Roper, 1994
Rock Jocks, Wall Rats and Hang Dogs, John Long, 1994
The Best of Outside Magazine, the Editors of Outside, 1997
Escape Routes, David Roberts, 1997
Addicted to Danger, Jim Wickwire, 1998 (hardcover), 1998 (paper)
Touching the Void, Joe Simpson, 1998 +
Everest: The Ultimate Hump, T. Knight, 1999 (cartoons)
A life On The Edge, Jim Whittaker (autobiography), 1999
A Fine Kind of Madness, Laura and Guy Waterman, 2000
Below Another Sky, Rick Ridgeway, 2001 +
Breaking Trail, Arlene Blum, 2005

BOOKS THAT WILL HELP YOU IMPROVE YOUR MOUNTAINEERING FITNESS
Aerobics, Major Kenneth Cooper, MD USAF, 1968 +
The New Aerobics, Kenneth Cooper, MD, 1970
The Complete Book of Running, James F. Fixx, 1977
Fit or Fat, Covert Bailey, 1977 +
The Pritikin Program of Diet and Exercise, Nathan Pritikin, 1979
Stretching, Bob Anderson 1975 +
Encyclopedia of Bodybuilding, Arnold Schwartzenegger, 1985 +
A Training Guide and Programs for Cross Country Skiers, Torbjorn Karlsen, 1992 +
Sports Endurance, Scott Tinley, 1994 +

This is a basic list of books which have been purchased over the years for the personal library of Traditional Mountaineering. I know there are glaring omissions. Some wonderful books I do not own as yet, Bradford Washburn's, Mountain Photography, for instance. The books marked with a + might be read first. The books marked with a * are included in the 2002 American Alpine Journal list called "High Praise" by David Stevenson, of fifty-two magnificent books from the first century of the American Alpine Club. --Bob Speik

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