Adventure Memoirs

Tara Matsuzaki
RA in a Day 2016
Genre Speed-dating Presentation
“No, no! The adventures first, explanations take such a dreadful time.”

- Lewis Carroll, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*
What is an adventure?

CC by Frontierofficial
What are Adventure Memoirs?
Appeal #1: Great Characters

National Geographic’s People’s Choice 2016 Adventurer of the Year
Pasang Lhamu Sherpa Akita photograph by Mingma Dorjee Sherpa
Appeal # 2: Great Stories
Appeal # 3: Setting

CC Scott & Emily
Appeal #4: Activity & Learning

Base Camp on Denali cc karina yeznaian
Appeal #5: Pace, Tone & Style
Appeal # 6: Inspiration

Read Adventure Memoir -> Gain Inspiration -> Set Out On an Adventure!
INTO THIN AIR

A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster

“Ranks among the great adventure books of all time.” - THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Jon Krakauer

AUTHOR OF INTO THE WILD AND EIGER DREAMS
Mountaineering Classics

THE WHITE SPIDER
The Classic Account of the Ascent of the Eiger

LIONEL TERRAY
CONQUISTADORS of the USELESS
Foreword by David Roberts

ANNAPOURNA
The First Conquest of an 8000-Meter Peak

SOLO
Nanga Parbat

Reinhold Messner

HEINRICH HARRER
author of the New York Times bestseller
Seven Years in Tibet
Mountaineering & Climbing

Between a Rock and a Hard Place
The New York Times Bestseller
Aron Ralston

Touching the Void
The True Story of One Man's Miraculous Survival
Joe Simpson

Alone on the Wall
Alex Honnold
With David Roberts
Mountaineering & Climbing: A Few Diverse Voices
Sailing Classics

- Sailing Alone around the World by Joshua Slocum
- Kon-Tiki by Thor Heyerdahl
- South by Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton
Rowing

- **Rowboat in a Hurricane** by Julie Angus
  - My amazing journey across the Atlantic Ocean

- **Rowing to Latitude** by Jill Fredston
  - Journeys along the Arctic's Edge

- **Adrift** by Steven Callahan
  - 76 Days Lost at Sea
  - New York Times Bestseller
  - One of the "100 Greatest Adventure Books of All Time" - National Geographic Editors' Choice
Thru-Hiking

1. Grandpa Gatewood's Walk
   - Ben Montgomery
   - The inspiring story of the woman who saved the Appalachian Trail

2. Wild
   - Cheryl Strayed
   - From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail

3. A Walk in the Woods
   - Bill Bryson
   - Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail
Dog Sledding & Northern Expeditions
Resources - Books

Nancy Pearl:
*Book Lust* "Adventure by the Book: Nonfiction"
*More Book Lust* "True Adventures"
*Book Lust To Go* “A is for Adventure”, “Climb Ev’ry Mountain”, “Hiking the (Fill in the Blank) Trail”, “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”, “See the Sea”


Resources: Magazines

*Library Journal:* RA Crossroads: What To Read After Cheryl Strayed’s Wild by Neal Wyatt

*Outside Magazine:*

“It’s the Dawn of the Female Adventure Memoir,”
“The Outside Canon,”
“The 25 Essential Books for the Well-Read Explorer,”
“The Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Summer Reading List”

*National Geographic:* “Greatest Adventure Books”
Resources: Online

Book Riot: “20 of Your Favorite Adventure Memoirs”
Good Reads lists: “Vicarious Thrills”, “Wanderlust” & “Fantastic Women’s Adventure Memoirs”

Novelist: Getting Up to Speed in Adventure Fiction by Joyce Saricks; revised by Jessica Zellers

Novelist Plus: “Extreme Endurance” list
“Don’t adventures ever have an end?
I suppose not. Someone else always has to carry on the story.”

– J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring