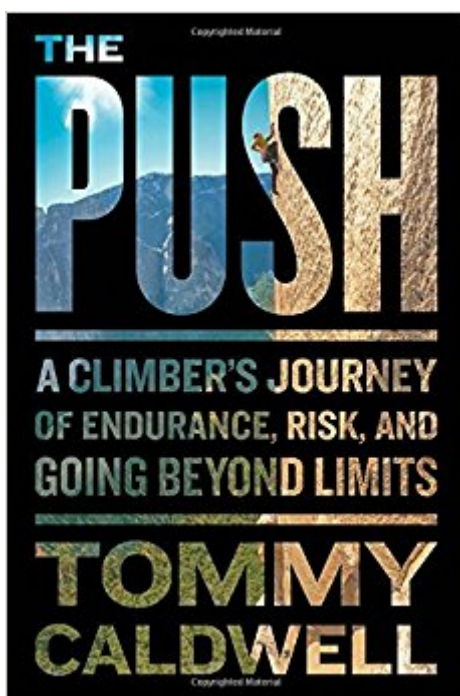


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The Push: A Climber's Journey Of Endurance, Risk, And Going Beyond Limits



Synopsis

A New York Times Bestseller A dramatic, inspiring memoir by legendary rock climber Tommy Caldwell, the first person to free climb the Dawn Wall of Yosemite's El Capitan. "The rarest of adventure reads: it thrills with colorful details of courage and perseverance but it enriches readers with an absolutely captivating glimpse into how a simple yet unwavering resolve can turn adversity into reward." •The Denver Post On January 14, 2015, Tommy Caldwell, along with his partner, Kevin Jorgeson, summited what is widely regarded as the hardest climb in history. Yosemite's nearly vertical 3,000-foot Dawn Wall, after nineteen days on the route. Caldwell's odds-defying feat was the culmination of an entire lifetime of pushing himself to his limits as an athlete. This engrossing memoir chronicles the journey of a boy with a fanatical mountain-guide father who was determined to instill toughness in his son to a teen whose obsessive nature drove him to the top of the sport-climbing circuit. Caldwell's affinity for adventure then led him to the vertigo-inducing and little understood world of big wall free climbing. But his evolution as a climber was not without challenges; in his early twenties, he was held hostage by militants in a harrowing ordeal in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan. Soon after, he lost his left index finger in an accident. Later his wife, and main climbing partner, left him. Caldwell emerged from these hardships with a renewed sense of purpose and determination. He set his sights on free climbing El Capitan's biggest, steepest, blankest face—the Dawn Wall. This epic assault took more than seven years, during which time Caldwell redefined the sport, found love again, and became a father. The Push is an arresting story of focus, drive, motivation, endurance, and transformation, a book that will appeal to anyone seeking to overcome fear and doubt, cultivate perseverance, turn failure into growth, and find connection with family and with the natural world.

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Customer Reviews

"If you want to be inspired by a great leader, if you want to feel what it takes to do what no one thought possible, if you want to be absorbed by a heroic journey--Tommy Caldwell's story is one of the best you could ever hope to find. Here, in his own words, you get more than just a climbing adventure, you get the inside view of how a person can endure crushing setbacks and persist to fulfill a spectacular vision. And in sharing his story, he has become a teacher to us all."

—Jim Collins, author of *Good to Great* "The Push is the most insightful book about climbing I've ever read, and quite possibly the most enjoyable. Whether Caldwell is explaining his astounding feats on vertical terrain, or the agony of trying to sustain a doomed relationship, or the merits of what he calls 'elective suffering,' the writing is consistently captivating and unfailingly honest."

—Jon Krakauer, author of *Into Thin Air* "Yes, Tommy Caldwell is a badass, but he is no different than you or I. I've always been interested in how people do the impossible. This isn't just a book about climbing, it's about laser sharp focus in all aspects of life. Tommy's story provides insight how we can all push a little further and a little higher."

—Scott Jurek, author of *Eat & Run* "The rarest of adventure reads: it thrills with colorful details of courage and perseverance but it enriches readers with an absolutely captivating glimpse into how a simple yet unwavering resolve can turn adversity into reward."

—The Denver Post "You always know Caldwell's going to make it to the top of that 3,000-foot hunk of Yosemite granite. But it doesn't matter as the book's raw honesty helps it transcend the sports-autobiography genre."

—Outside "Full of rich stories that fluctuate between gripping, tender, moving, laugh-out loud funny, devastating and inspiring . . . Caldwell's writing also crystallizes moments of intense natural beauty . . . The Push is an adventure in its own right, exploring the unknown self, being open to growth, sharing friendship with others and encouraging readers to do the same."

—The Kansas City Star "Caldwell expertly blends the triumphs and tragedies of a life well lived with discussions of mastering the vertical climb . . . an eloquent, absorbing story about testing one's limits."

—Publishers Weekly "Climbers will inhale Caldwell's book and want more; adventure readers will love his descriptions of climbs and techniques, even if they are new to

Tommy Caldwell grew up in Colorado. He has made dozens of notable ascents, and many consider him the best all-around rock climber in the world. In 2014 he was chosen as one of National Geographic's Adventurers of the Year, and in 2015 the American Alpine Club awarded him Lifetime Honorary Membership, its highest honor. Caldwell, a frequent contributor to *Alpinist*, *Climbing*, and *Rock and Ice* magazines, lives in the town where he first learned to climb, Estes Park, Colorado, with his wife and their son and daughter.

The best book written by a climber I have ever read. Tommy doesn't hold back, which gives the book unparalleled authenticity. Most public figures would be too worried about how revealing their inner soul might affect their image. Tommy doesn't seem to care about whitewashing his pain, his inner doubts, his mistakes. Incredibly honest and real throughout. I have been climbing since 1988, I know most of the people mentioned in the book, but from TC's perspective everything gained more life and color. A superb read. Side note: seems to be listed reviews for "Push" by Sapphire (1996) as reviews for this book. I guess string matching is a hard problem after all.

An extraordinary book that explores the development and maturation of Caldwell and his place in the mountains. It is a story of will and determination as much as a history of the Dawn Wall. His account of his relationships was particularly moving for me. If you are interested in exploring the importance of will and devotion, this is a book for you. If you are interested in American Mountaineering and Climbing, then this book is a must for you.

I am not a climber, but this book was superb. If you enjoy books about what drives extraordinary people to accomplish great things then this will be of interest. Caldwell is an interesting guy and the book is extremely well written. I hated to finish it!

Its another book which I considered reading after Alex Honnold's "alone on the wall" and I would say this is way better. I had seen some clips of Tommy Caldwell's climb on dawn wall but reading this book does the justice of feeling the actual thrill of being on the wall. Also I believe Caldwell's life is pretty inspiring . Every time he went through a bad patch ,he had converted that to his advantage doing extraordinary things.

Tommy has an outstanding gift to express himself with poise, insight, and selflessness. He describes his life in a way that brings you along emotionally. He is especially tactful in describing his relationships, showing respect and concern for how others will be perceived by his descriptions. It is obvious that Tommy is an outstanding climber. This book establishes him as an outstanding author.

It was a peek into the climbing world. I had no idea that climbing was so complicated. I just thought it was sport for daredevils! Too much time was spent on the final climbing event. If I were a climber the details of preparation might have been more interesting. Additionally, I didn't understand some of the terminology. All in all the book was engaging.

Although the sport intrigues me, I knew nothing about it. The book is a great read even for a general audience. Well written and engaging. I have tried other rock climbing books that got too hung up on the nuts & bolts (no pun) technical aspects which become boring if you have no idea what they are really talking about.

I'm not a climber but read a review of this book and then purchased it to read for myself. I was totally engaged in his story. I live in Lander WY and recently Alex Honnand was here for the International Climbers Festival. It was interesting to me that a Tommy and Alex had climbed together. It gives me a great appreciation for rock climbing.

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