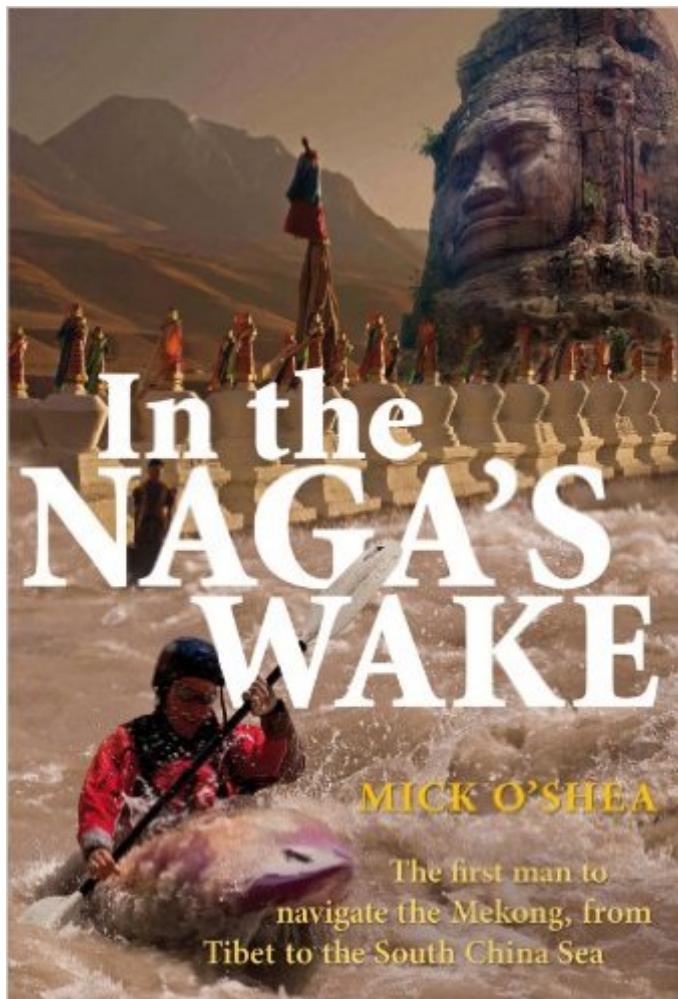


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In The Naga's Wake: The First Man To Navigate The Mekong, From Tibet To The South China Sea



Synopsis

Upon first seeing its unforgiving rapids, a 20-year-old traveler Mick O'Shea began dreaming of a solo expedition down the Mekong River, from its source in Tibet to the South China Sea. This exhilarating travel novel captures O'Shea's extremely dangerous kayak adventure into the unknown through remote gorges, terrifying rapids, and deadly whirlpools, past floating headless bodies, looming dams and terrifying Chinese soldiers. Always seeking adventure and adrenaline, this explorer was immediately attracted to the Mekong's power as well as to its spiritual and cultural significance and exotic beauty. This extraordinary true story of one man's wild ride down one of the fastest and most dangerous rivers in the world is a compelling read for armchair travelers, extreme-sports fans, environmentalists, and Southeast Asia enthusiasts.

Book Information

Paperback: 264 pages

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,731,627 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking > Sea Kayaking #117 in Books > Travel > Asia > Tibet #880 in Books > Travel > Asia > China > General

Customer Reviews

This is a very interesting book and the adventure it portrays is colossal! Mick O'Shea tells us at the very beginning that he is going to include his perception-bias of the entire trip as to the best of his ability warts and all. How fortunate that he did this because how else could we as readers get inside the mind of a person who is the first to descend the entire Mekong? This is the closest most of us average folks will ever get to this type of an adventure. Mick had to cut corners on equipment, bureaucracy, money, support staff, timing, weather, personal relationships...and had to muster a single minded concentration and focus on the objective of successfully navigating the Mekong or he would have failed like so many others. O'Shea's river rat mentality, ego, slap stick genius, genuine interest in people and ability to think in the moment facilitated his one of a kind achievement. This is

not only a river adventure but a chance to peek in the mind of a super achiever. I looked up the coordinates of the source of the Mekong and focused in with Google Earth to follow the entire trip as I read the book right to the mouth of the Mekong. If one does this the whole book comes alive as if one were following the whole adventure from about 1000 feet above. A wealth of photographs all along the route allows one to see the terrain, people, many of the rapids, some history, rock slides, canyons, fauna, Chinese dams...all along the route. My suggestion to Mike for his future adventure books is to include GPS coordinates all along the route which lends the entire visual surroundings as a backdrop to the mainstream of his adventure story. One has to love those river rats because they are indeed free spirits and they live in another world.

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