Snowstruck: In the Grip of Avalanches



Snowstruck: In the Grip of Avalanches by Mykel Hawke

★★★★★ 4.4 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 12790 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 356 pages



Avalanches are one of the most dangerous natural hazards in the world. They can strike with little warning, and they can be incredibly destructive. In the United States, avalanches kill an average of 25 people each year. Worldwide, avalanches kill thousands of people each year.

Avalanches occur when a large mass of snow slides down a slope. Avalanches can be triggered by a variety of factors, including:

- Heavy snowfall
- Wind
- Rain
- Earthquakes
- Human activity

The most common type of avalanche is a **slab avalanche**. Slab avalanches occur when a layer of snow breaks away from the rest of the snowpack and slides down the slope. Slab avalanches are the most dangerous type of avalanche because they can be very large and they can travel at high speeds.

Avalanches can be very destructive. They can destroy buildings, cars, and other infrastructure. Avalanches can also cause injuries and death.

How to Stay Safe in Avalanche Country

If you are planning on traveling in avalanche country, it is important to take steps to stay safe. Here are some tips:

- Get avalanche training.
- Check the avalanche forecast before you go out.
- Avoid traveling in avalanche terrain when the avalanche danger is high.
- If you are caught in an avalanche, try to swim to the surface.
- If you are buried in an avalanche, try to create an air pocket around your face.

Avalanche Rescue

If you are caught in an avalanche, it is important to know how to selfrescue. Here are some tips:

Try to swim to the surface.

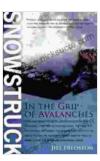
- If you are buried in an avalanche, try to create an air pocket around your face.
- Stay calm and conserve your energy.
- Wait for help to arrive.

If you see someone who has been caught in an avalanche, it is important to call for help immediately. You can also try to help the person by digging them out. However, it is important to be careful not to put yourself in danger.

Avalanches are a dangerous natural hazard, but there are steps that you can take to stay safe. By following the tips in this article, you can reduce your risk of being caught in an avalanche.

For more information on avalanches, please visit the following websites:

- American Avalanche Association
- Snow Safety Alliance
- Canadian Avalanche Association



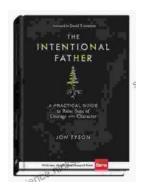
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