

The Doing of the Thing: The Brief, Brilliant Whitewater Career of Buzz Holmstrom (New Edition)



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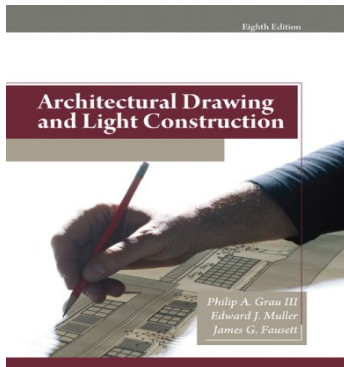
The Doing of the Thing: The Brief, Brilliant Whitewater Career of Buzz Holmstrom (New Edition)

Biography of America's great river runner, Buzz Holmstrom: the first to run the Green and Colorado Rivers alone in 1937. Born in the coastal logging communities of coastal Oregon, Holmstrom built his own wooden boats and soloed several of the country's great whitewater rivers. He died mysteriously on the Grande Ronde River at age 37.



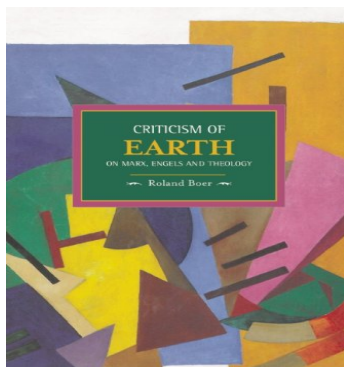
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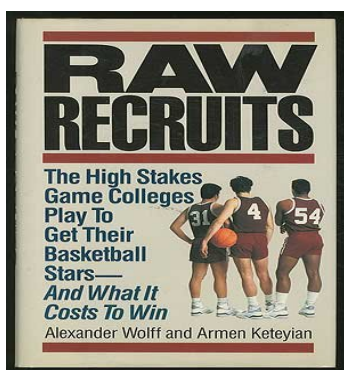
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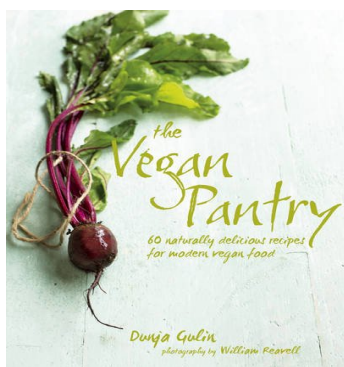
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What others say about this ebook:

Review 1:

When this book came out, my dream was to canoe the Colorado. I pestered my whitewater paddling buddies around our campfires in the western Carolinas and north Georgia to go "next year". We never made it. I had no interest in a raft (except to come along with all the gear we couldn't haul in the canoes and the option to load canoes when we approached a rapid that was just too much for our skill level). During those times sleeping under the stars was also common, which along with the thrill from whitewater and the birds singing at sunrise made re-entry to civilization difficult. I know the feeling that the trip is over and nothing in the "real" world is going to measure up.

Buzz and his family were always dirt poor. After spending less than \$20 building his boat, he had \$117 saved from his job at the gas station. He left \$17 in the bank and took \$100 with him. His clothes were ragged (even wore out the seat on a pair of pants that he couldn't patch any more). However, near the end of the first solo through the Grand Canyon, he caught up with the expedition that had turned him down. When they heard his story (a \$10 car, no money and one can of beans left), they took up a collection to help him get home (or back to his car). He was overwhelmed, but refused their offer. His enjoyment of that first trip went beyond nature, the river, the stars and the moon.

What a great human being! What a mix of joy and sorrow.

I decided to write this review because I found the book and am reading it for the second time....sure sign of a great book. I am not sure that people who have never been on any whitewater that terrified them and put them in the water or done much camping under the stars (no tent) along the banks of beautiful rivers can fully appreciate Buzz's feelings, but it might inspire them to give it a try? Not sure where you'd go today to find what Buzz found in the Green and Colorado Rivers. Hell, they have flooded so much of the awesome beauty of the canyons, ancient ruins and spectacular rapids.

Review 2:

Buzz Holmstrom was my uncle and this book hold so much of my family's history as well as Uncle Buzz's adventuresome spirit.

Review 3:

A great book to read if you are a river rat. I live in Oregon and raft rivers and I had not heard about Carl. A great story about a very private and driven man.

Review 4:

Engaging history of a young man who finds fulfillment in building boats and running rivers, but discovers that this focus is too narrow for true and lasting happiness. I enjoyed every page of this well written and thoroughly researched book.

Review 5:

I am a whitewater nut -Buzz had an interesting life

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