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I Hike

Mostly True Stories from 10,000 Miles of Hiking

Written and narrated by Lawton Griner

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Synopsis

"I never set out to hike 10,000 miles. It just sort of happened over the course of a decade." And so goes Lawton Grinter’s compelling collection of short stories that have been over ten years and 10,000 trail miles in the making. I Hike brings the reader trailside with blissful moments on the highest mountain ridges to the mental lows of mosquito hell and into some peculiar situations that even seasoned hikers may find unbelievable. Between jobs and in search of something more, Lawton Grinter spent the better part of a decade hiking America's longest trails. In doing so he came face to face with things that go bump in the night, the kindness of strangers, a close encounter with hypothermia and the absurd rights of passage common to the eccentric people that call themselves long-distance hikers. Anyone who’s ever stepped off the pavement will appreciate these humorous and sometimes agonizing accounts of trail life. I Hike will make you laugh, cry, cringe and leave you wanting to read more!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a thru-hiker who has completed some of our long distance trails and I can say that this book was hard to put down. Finally, someone speaking, like a thru-hiker, about the experiences that keep us all coming back for more of the good times that thru-hiking provides. I'd always been a bit peeved that, until now, Bill Bryson (Walk in the Woods) was our thru-hiking spokesman when he only hiked around 200 miles of the A.T. before giving up. Disco has walked the walk, and I really enjoyed hearing (reading) him talk the talk.
I was expecting another thru-hike narrative when I bought this book, and I was initially disappointed with its content. However, I Hike turned out to be a collection of tales about almost everything that can and will go wrong on a long-distance hike. Mr. Grinter has hiked all three of the major trails and has had his share of problems with bears, hypothermia, high water, detours, forest fires, and self-inflicted stomach ailments. Yet he kept grinding on to the finish; it’s simply what hikers do. Beside writing, Grinter has also tried his hand at filmmaking, and he is a good storyteller, as well as being an expert hiker. The chapters "Gator-Boy" and "On Luck’s Side" were particularly gratifying, as each show that hikers form both a community and extended family. I will take a lot from this book on my next hike and would recommend it to anybody who likes really long walks in the woods.

I've really enjoyed it. As a backpacker that hasn't done anything longer than a few days, it's interesting to see the mindset of a long-haul thru hiker. The author definitely has the experience: the AT, the PCT (twice), and the CDT, just to name a few. Rather than grinding away on gear details or talking about his own exploits in a bragging fashion, Lawton Grinter tells short stories about specific episodes while providing enough background info to keep the reader up to speed. I wish it was a smidge longer, but I really did enjoy it for what it was worth and hope that the author has some more material in the works.

I enjoyed this little book very much. I wished it was three times as long, though. I read it in two nights, enjoyed enormously and was terribly sad to finish it. A complete different approach from the normal hiking trip description, very entertaining, great writing. Hope more hiking stories will follow.

I have read MANY books about hiking and this one is at the top of my list. He covers many miles on many different trails and if you are a hiker, long distance, section or overnighter, I am sure that you can relate to situations he writes about. Great book about hiking, thankyou for taking the time to write this book.

Lawton Grinter takes you on his amazing journey to a point that you feel all the highs and lows on his hiking endeavors! entertaining, funny and very heartfelt at times. This read is captivating and makes you feel and even visualize every step of his journey on the trail! I highly recommend this book for anyone who wants to get a sense of what life is like on a thru-hike!
good collection of hiking stories/ well written, good variety. Somehow I still like a description of through hikes better but not because the author isn't experienced. Some very unique true stories to give one pause. Worth the read.

After reading another hiking book that I just couldn't finish, I wasn't sure I wanted to read another. However, this one was great, made me laugh and I enjoyed it thoroughly. It's a collection of stories from various trails, & his experiences. Highly recommended.

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