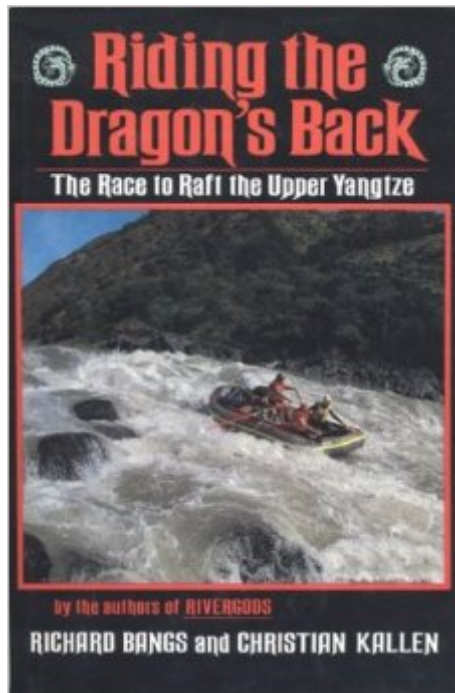


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# Riding The Dragon's Back: The Race To Raft The Upper Yangtze



## Synopsis

This exciting account of adventure and competition follows several expeditions to be the first to descend China's longest river, from its headwaters in Tibet to the Three Gorges region, and eventually to the East China Sea. Among the players are a megalomaniac American fishing guide, patriotic members of China's youth movement, novice boaters full of fear and experienced rafters filled with hubris, thrown together to challenge one of the world's most dangerous rivers. Originally published in 1989, and winner of a Lowell Thomas Award that year for best travel book, "Riding the Dragon's Back" has been slightly revised to emphasize the drama and excitement of its narrative of competition and challenge, although the chapters on Chinese exploration and history remain. This is modern river exploration at its best, and the book has inspired numerous whitewater enthusiasts over the years to emulate its adventurous spirit. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 260 pages

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Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.1 x 0.6 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,443,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #101 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Rafting #908 inÂ Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Chinese #1238 inÂ Books > Travel > Asia > China > General

## Customer Reviews

This book was recommended by Simon Winchester who wrote The River at the Center of the World about his own experiences from its headwaters to its mouth. Two different viewpoints, but both powerful stories in their own words. Riding the Dragon's back was a very exciting followup adventure and I am glad to have read them both.

I have been a professional river guide for 45 years. I know the authors - I met them after their 1987 trip in a small town near their take-out. I was scouting for a trip on the Mekong in Yunnan. I first read this book the year it was originally published, but lost my copy and just bought it again. This book

was an inspiration for my son to run the Great Bend of the Yangtze commercially and for me to become one of his guides. The Great Bend of the Yangtze is (was) China's Grand Canyon. Unfortunately it has been dammed, so this book is the best record of what the river was like before the dams. I have organized a river trip in western China nearly every year since 1994 - I still help my son Travis Winn ([...] do it. Riding the Dragon's Back was also the inspiration for me to create a website about the history of exploring the rivers of western China. [...] which has a page dedicated to Riding The Dragon's Back. Whether you're a river guide or just love floating rivers or are curious about the history of western China, this is a fantastic story.

The first half is disjointed and quite boring. The second half actually tells the story of the navigation. It's almost as if there are 2 authors.

One of the best adventure stories I've ever read. Read along or after River at the Center of the World

Hours of painful boredom interrupted by moments of excruciating tedium. Even the most avid adventure seekers will find this book to be a complete waste of time.

This is the story of a lifetime. How I survived it, only God knows! Read it and find out.....Capt. Fogel[...]

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