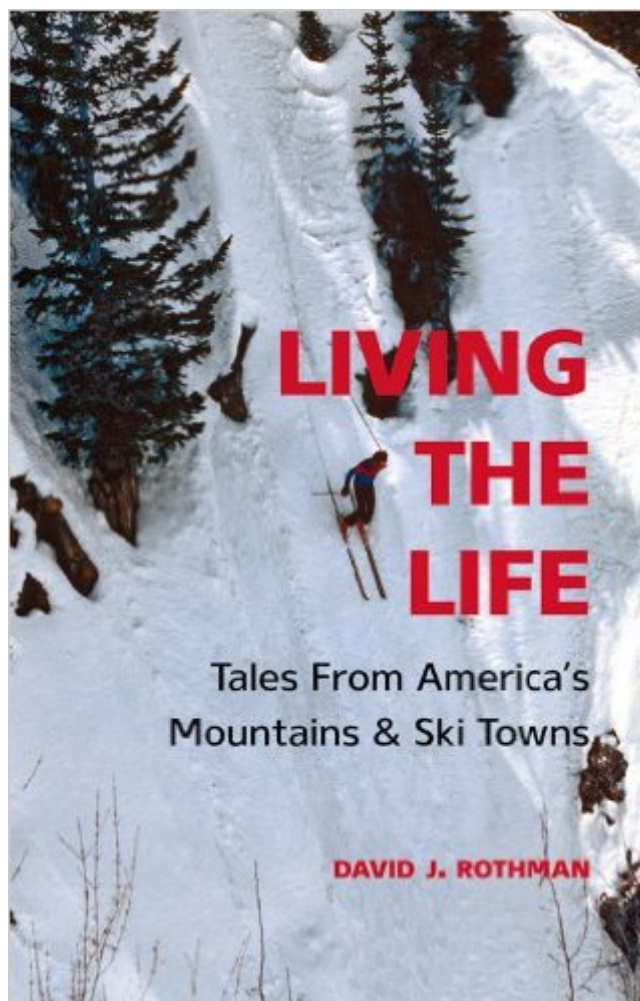


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# Living The Life: Tales From America's Mountains & Ski Towns



## Synopsis

Skiing--like surfing, fishing, sailing, mountaineering and climbing--is an environment sport. It doesn't come to us--we must go to the places where it happens. The ones who are most committed to these places, who fall deeply in love with mountains and the alpine life, are not only athletes, but rather people who have chosen to live their lives in a particular way. This is a book for all those people--for the skiers, the climbers, the alpinists and the people who love mountains and live in them, for all those who have ever lived that life or who dream of living it. In thirty-eight tales of adventure and self-discovery, adrenaline and honesty, Rothman reveals the soul skier's *raison d'Être*: to find exhilaration, faith, grief, laughter, love, and everything else that truly matters in the heart of the mountains.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Living the Life" is the best book about skiing and life I've ever read. David Rothman has seemingly organized his entire life around skiing and lived it with enthusiasm, curiosity, and humor. The book consists of 35 short essays and is both a memoir and a meditation about skiing as a way of life that touches "far more than mountains and snow--it comes in contact," as Rothman says, "with friendship ...grief, ambition, faith ...remorse... and regret, which is to say: everything that matters." Rothman grew up and learned to ski on the east coast. Like many others, he graduated from alpine skiing to alpine racing and then from area skiing to backcountry skiing. His metamorphosis paralleled a geographic shift that brought him west: to Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado, a migration brought on by a chance year off devoted to skiing and racing. His

deepest ties are to, and some of the very best stories are about, Crested Butte and Boulder, Colorado and all the many skiable peaks in between. This is not a book like Chris Davenport's account of skiing all the 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado in a year, an epic adventure by an extraordinarily skilled climber, skier, and winter mountaineer. What makes this book work is not Rothman's exploits so much (although his account and the accompanying photos of him dropping into "Spit" for Brains at Snowbird is scary enough) as Rothman's skill as a writer. He writes with clarity, grace, and with a poet's awareness of the tenuousness of life, the fragility of relationships, and the importance of asking why skiing matters, where the mountains end, when do turns stop, and how we will ski if we completely destroy the alpine environment?

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