The Boiling River: Adventure And Discovery In The (TED Books)
In this exciting adventure mixed with amazing scientific study, a young, exuberant explorer and geoscientist journeys deep into the "where rivers boil and legends come to life. When Andrés Ruzo was just a small boy in Peru, his grandfather told him the story of a mysterious legend: There is a river, deep in the , which boils as if a fire burns below it. Twelve years later, Ruzo "now a geoscientist" "hears his aunt mention that she herself had visited this strange river. Determined to discover if the boiling river is real, Ruzo sets out on a journey deep into the . What he finds astounds him: In this long, wide, and winding river, the waters run so hot that locals brew tea in them; small animals that fall in are instantly cooked. As he studies the river, Ruzo faces challenges more complex than he had ever imaged. The Boiling River follows this young explorer as he navigates a tangle of competing interests "local shamans, illegal cattle farmers and loggers, and oil companies. This true account reads like a modern-day adventure, complete with extraordinary characters, captivating plot twists, and jaw-dropping details "including stunning photographs and a never-before-published account about this incredible natural wonder. Ultimately, though, The Boiling River is about a man trying to understand the moral obligation that comes with scientific discovery "to protect a sacred site from misuse, neglect, and even from his own discovery. 

Book Information

Series: TED Books
Hardcover: 144 pages
Publisher: Simon & Schuster/ TED (February 16, 2016)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1501119478
Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 7 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars "See all reviews (22 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #335,707 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Ecosystems > Tropical #44 inÂ Books > History > Americas > South America > Peru #123 inÂ Books > Travel > South America > General

Customer Reviews

Someone give Andrés TV show! What a remarkable chain of events. What an amazing young man. I can't recommend this book enough! If you love a mystery, have an interest in ecology and the
indigenous people of the rainforest, or if you believe international petroleum companies are the scourge of the earth, you should read this book. Andrés, a budding geology student, tells of his research into a legendary boiling river deep in the Peruvian jungle. A place he was told of as a child by his Abuelo (grandfather). While I’m sure the printed and ebook versions are preferred by some, I highly recommend the Audible version. Andrés narrates his own book and doing so shares his passion and amazement for the adventure. The rainforest has a new champion. His name, Andrés Ruzo!

I discovered this book from a recent TED Talk. Special places exist in the world. This is one of them. It is hoped that he can help keep this river and those who use it pure. A celebration of this unique area is shared in his book. Some neighbors honor and work with those who live here, while others tear down the forests and burn the remains to farm and ‘develop’ the area. I admire the author Andrés Ruzo who has connected with this place. He is trying to preserve the Boiling River and the people who celebrate and honor it. His concern extends to his PhD Thesis on this geologic wonder. He does not want his research used to exploit the people or the resource.

Title: The Boiling River
Author: Andrés Ruzo
Read by: Andrés Ruzo
Publisher: Simon & Schuster
AudioLength: Approximately 2 hours and 37 minutes
Source: Simon & Schuster Audio Digital
Review Copy “Thank-you!”

When Andrés Ruzo was a young boy, his grandfather told him of a great legend in Peru. The conquistadors had come to the country looking for treasure, and learned of a lost city of gold hidden in the rainforest from the Incas. The conquistadors set off to find this City of Gold, but were turned back by a boiling river. Ruzo grows up and becomes a geologist. While working on his PhD in the United States, Ruzo returns to Peru to make a geothermal map of the country. While there, he is sidetracked by the idea of the boiling river. He sets off on an adventure in the rainforest to find the river and to determine what could have caused such a natural phenomenon. He also worries about the impacts of his discoveries and the environmental impacts of changes in the rainforest. This short audiobook was packed full of adventure, environmental dilemma, and science. I loved it.

Andrés Ruzo narrated the tale himself. I admit, I thought it was too fantastical to be real and was surprised when I looked it up to find out it was a true story. It was a great adventure to listen to, but I also loved that Ruzo worried about the impacts of the world finding out about his discovery and what that could mean to those that live by and love the boiling river. I took a couple of geology courses in my college days, but I am not an expert. You can listen to this without a profound understanding of geology and get a lot out of the story. This audiobook had some
wonderful quotes. I want to get this one made into a sign in my lab: "Science is not about the story we want to hear, but the story the data tells us." I love this quote, as this story was great proof of it. Fiction does not have the monopoly on the unbelievable. This acknowledgement cracked me up: "I would like to thank my wife Sophia. You are my rock and as a geologist, you know how much this means to me." This audiobook was a part of the new TED books series based off of the successful TED talks that are on a variety of fascinating subjects. I need to find more of these books. Overall, a great audiobook if you are looking for a great non-fiction adventure. I vastly enjoyed this audiobook. I hope that Andres Ruzo writes a more in-depth book on the subject in the future - I would love to read it!

This "TED book" is based on, and extends, a recent TED talk by the author. Ruzo, a grad student in geology, had heard a family story about a river of boiling water, and when he inquired again about it (because it was of interest from a geological point of view), an aunt said she knew all about it, and offered to show it to him. That was important because she was an old friend of the shaman who controlled who got to see the river. This book tells about Ruzo’s adventures in finding this boiling river, deep in the Peruvian forest, and also shows some of the problems of protecting and preserving that forest. Basically, it is a story of how he got a lucky break to learn about this marvel of nature (the river is far larger than any other hot spring anywhere), and took advantage of it. It is very well written, and I enjoyed reading it. My only complaint is that the photos don’t come over especially well; the Kindle paper-white screen really is marginal for continuous tone images, and the photos should always be formatted for "landscape" orientation to best utilize the screen area.

Mesmerizing!!! A simply awesome read. Finished it in less than a day ... hard to stop reading. So what is it? It’s science meets spirituality .... I have loved Geology for many many years and learned as much as I could from reading. I had the awesome experience living in the southernmost Mojave Desert right up upon the San Bernardino Mountain’s foothills Outside of Apple Valley, Ca. This was indeed a spiritual experience for me ... and this book resonated with me ... finding mystery and wonder in nature and the world around us is probably the most wonderful experience. I drove the mountain "off road" roads and the desert “off-road” roads and marveled at nature. every night the Milky Way was overhead and the sky so full of stars that it was difficult to pick out the constellations ... So This book brought me to the of today and to a great geological mystery. There is a great blend of exploring, science, and a plea for respect and preservation of the world’s few remaining wild places. This was a simply wonderful reading experience ... some great "take-aways" and much
on which to reflect. I heartily recommend this little book to all!!!!

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