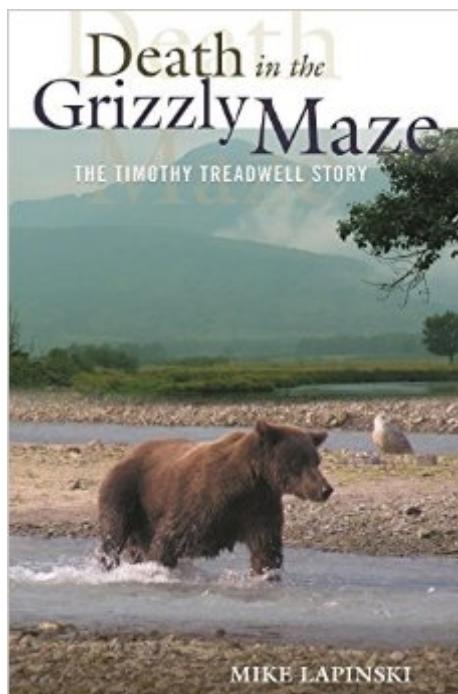


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Death In The Grizzly Maze: The Timothy Treadwell Story



Synopsis

On the afternoon of October 5, 2003, in Alaska's Katmai National Park, one or more brown bears killed and ate Timothy Treadwell and his girlfriend Amie Huguenard. The next day, park rangers killed the two bears that they assumed were responsible. This frightening and chilling story immediately captured worldwide media attention. Some bear experts felt that Treadwell's death was a matter of time, considering the unorthodox and highly questionable tactics he used in his life among the bears. Yet Timothy's surge in popularity, and his inglorious death, give rise to a plethora of questions. More than just a story about Treadwell, *Death in the Grizzly Maze* delves into the issues raised by the new breed of reckless wildlife celebrities and answers these questions: Was it a foregone conclusion that Timothy Treadwell had to die? Since Treadwell's actions were so obviously improper why didn't the National Park Service intervene? Did the bears have to die? How the actions of a few are affecting national park policy and promoting improper behavior when encountering wildlife are important issues for the future of wildlife conservation.

Book Information

Paperback: 175 pages

Publisher: Falcon Guides; 1st edition (April 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0762736771

ISBN-13: 978-0762736775

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (33 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,229,936 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Field Guides > Mammals #173 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Bears #2753 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Environmental

Customer Reviews

à®‡ Fuzzy Wuzzy's Summary:Ñ Ñ Not recommended. This product gives me cold pricklies. I read both this book and Nick Jans' book "The Grizzly Maze: Timothy Treadwell's Fatal Obsession with Alaskan Bears" after having watched the great Werner Herzog documentary film "Grizzly Man". The Herzog documentary piqued my curiosity to learn more about the enigmatic self-styled "bear whisperer" Timothy Treadwell. I have not read Treadwell's own "Among Grizzlies: Living with Wild

Bears in Alaska". In hindsight, I feel that both the Herzog film and Nick Jans' "Grizzly Maze" were much better, less opinionated, and more objective treatments of this guy. Nick Jans' writing is far better than Lapinski's also, and one gets the impression that this book was banged together too quickly in order to get it published before either Jans' book or Herzog's documentary. Lapinski suggests that Treadwell suffered from bipolar disorder and that he and his girlfriend were actually killed by a younger bear weighing 300 pounds, instead of the 1000-pound 28-year-old male "Bear #141" whose stomach contained human remains. This book is filled with a lot of Lapinski's own personal opinions about Treadwell, along with tons of conjecture and speculation. Unlike Jans' book, Lapinski does talk about Treadwell's girlfriend, Amie Huguenard, much more.

Mike Lapinski's "Death in the Grizzly Maze" is a book about the self-proclaimed eco-warrior Timothy Treadwell, who perhaps doesn't need a closer introduction. Treadwell lived around brown bears in Katmai (a national park in Alaska) for thirteen seasons in a row, somehow getting the wild bears to tolerate his presence. He became a national celebrity in the United States, claiming to defend the bears from poachers and other threats. In 2003, tragedy struck: Treadwell and his companion Amie Huguenard were killed and eaten by brown bears as they were camping in an area Treadwell called the Grizzly Maze. Who was Timothy Treadwell? What motivated him to socialize at close distance with dangerous and potentially lethal animals? Could the tragedy of his and Amie's deaths have been avoided, or was it inevitable? Werner Herzog's award-winning movie "Grizzly Man" gives one answer, a rather disturbing one: Treadwell was out of his mind, wanted to cross the line between man and beast, and inevitably failed. Herzog even believes that Treadwell was driven by a death wish. Lapinski's book hints at another answer, perhaps an even more disturbing one: Treadwell was a hoax, a con artist whose primary goal was fame and celebrity status. However, he also has an alternative explanation: the frequently erratic behaviour of Treadwell was caused by bipolar disorder. Although Lapinski isn't a big fan of Tim Treadwell, he nevertheless has a grudging respect for the man. He never accuses him of being a con man outright. Yet, after reading "Death in the Grizzly Maze", I must say that I veer strongly towards that option. Too many of Treadwell's claims just don't add up.

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