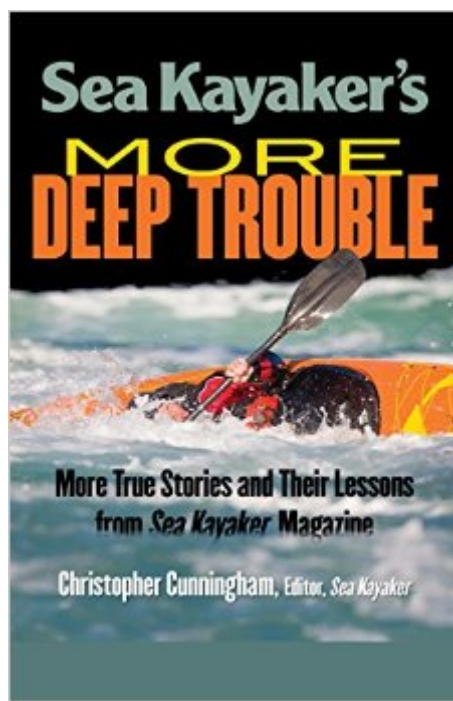


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Sea Kayaker's More Deep Trouble



Synopsis

29 STORIES THAT ILLUSTRATE WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN SAFETY IS LEFT ON SHORE Sea Kayaker's Deep Trouble was a bestselling warning to kayakers: Do not let ignorance or arrogance get you hurt or even killed. Thousands heeded Deep Trouble's tales of tragedy; but even with the benefits of evolving technology and more safety options, kayakers still fall prey to human error. To renew the cautious attitude of seasoned paddlers and to instill safe practices in kayaking newbies, Sea Kayaker's More Deep Trouble presents more stories of kayaking trials, rescues, and tragedy. In these 29 stories collected from Sea Kayaker magazine, survivors and witnesses tell of their experiences with the dangers and risks of kayaking. You will feel the cold rush of water when paddlers fall in, the panic they feel when they do not know how to rescue themselves, and the anxiousness of loved ones waiting to hear any news. You will learn how whale watching could cost you your life, how life-saving electronics are only as good as the batteries you have in them, and how a float plan can initiate a timely search and rescue. End-of-story Lessons Learned summaries suggest what to do if you find yourself in similar unfortunate situations. Read these tales, understand the lessons learned in these incidents, and respect the advice given as you take your next kayaking adventure. This tome of danger and survival may ultimately save your life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Seakayaker's More Deep Trouble, is a sequel to the first Sea Kayaker Deep Trouble book released in 1997, and it is probably the last. Sea Kayaker Magazine, the source of these stories in closing its doors. It will stop publishing the magazine this year. The new Deep Trouble contains

some twenty-nine reports of sea kayaking accidents or emergencies that required rescue. Each one is a straight forward presentation of the facts leading to the incident, reported when possible from the victim's point of view. This is followed by an analysis of what was done right and what was done wrong by both the victims and an outside observer. Initially, I was kind of bored by the reports and annoyed that so many of them are focused on cold weather and cold water paddling in the great Northwest. I didn't see it as too relevant for a guy who does most of his paddling in warm weather and warm water. That changed about half way through the book. Incident ten (The Fifth Paddler: Kayaking Tragedy in Baja) hit me hard because Lisa and I have paddled this area in Costa Rica. It involved five well trained guides in a warm water, warm weather situation who got caught because (1) they lacked local knowledge and (2) the balmy weather and pleasant breezes made them sloppy with their safety preparations for the day trip they were making. How many of us go out paddling on a warm, balmy day not wearing a PFD, no spray deck, no bilge pump, no paddle float, no self or assisted rescue practice? These guys did all of that, and they are professionals. Several other incidents hit me hard as well. A couple of these involved the loss of a partner or a buddy, and the heart wrenching decision made by one to let the buddy go in order to save himself.

As a backpacker/long-distance hiker, I normally stay on terra firma, but I have enjoyed going kayaking a few times. In fact I have previously told myself that if I weren't so involved with hiking, I would probably kayak on a regular basis. At least that what I thought until I read "More Deep Trouble." Now I am much more aware of how seriously sea kayakers should take their sport. Sea kayaking may have tremendous rewards--the joy of being at sea and the fitness it affords, but it also has challenges and risks. It is not something to be undertaken frivolously. "More Deep Trouble" is a collection of 29 true stories compiled by Christopher Cunningham, the editor of "Sea Kayaker." The compelling stories--each with its own disaster or near disaster, demonstrate how important caution and planning are to sea kayakers. From novices who don't have tidal charts or maps to experienced kayakers who have become too complacent and don't wear adequate clothing for water temperatures--we see it all. It's actually a gift that those who have gotten into trouble on the water are willing to share their mishaps because we can learn from their experiences. It is all too easy to think we have mastered a sport, when in reality we have just been lucky enough to not have encountered the worst that nature can throw at us. After each story, Cunningham or one of the kayakers, writes another installment of "Lessons Learned". Here we learn how to reduce the chance of calamity at sea by such measures as checking weather reports, having an adequate float plan, carrying working batteries, and having safety equipment in accessible places. Many of the stories

involve kayaks capsizing--and the kayakers' inability to self-rescue.

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