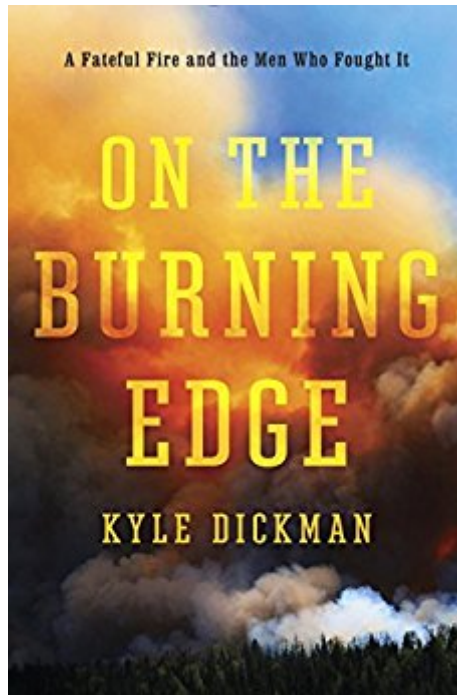


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On The Burning Edge: A Fateful Fire And The Men Who Fought It



Synopsis

NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY MEN'S JOURNAL In the tradition of Sebastian Junger's *The Perfect Storm* and Robert Kurson's *Shadow Divers* comes a true and heartbreaking tale of courage, difficult decisions, and ultimate sacrifice. *On the Burning Edge*, by award-winning journalist and former wildland firefighter Kyle Dickman, is the definitive account of the Yarnell Hill Fire. On June 28, 2013, a single bolt of lightning sparked an inferno that devoured more than eight thousand acres in northern Arizona. Twenty elite firefighters—the Granite Mountain Hotshots—walked together into the blaze, tools in their hands and emergency fire shelters on their hips. Only one of them walked out. Dickman brings to the story a professional firefighter's understanding of how wildfires ignite, how they spread, and how they are fought. He understands hotshots and their culture: the pain and glory of a rough and vital job, the brotherly bonds born of dangerous work. Drawing on dozens of interviews with officials, families of the fallen, and the lone survivor, he describes in vivid detail what it's like to stand inside a raging fire—and shows how the increased population and decreased water supply of the American West guarantee that many more young men will step into harm's way in the coming years. Praise for *On the Burning Edge* "What makes this book a tear-jerking classic is the seamless manner in which Dickman weaves a century of fire-management history into the fully realized stories of the men's lives—the sweat, the adrenaline, the orange glow of fire within their aluminum shelters, and the chewing gum that hotshot Scott Norris left in the shower before telling his girlfriend, Heather, "I'll take care of it later. I promise." Outside "Dickman offers a riveting account of a dangerous occupation and acts of nature most violent—and those who face both down." Library Journal From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

Well, this comment might come pretty late in the game people, but I'm the father and the uncle of two of the members in that crew of 19 heroes. I'm Grant Quinn McKee's dad. Grant Scott McKee. It has taken me a long time to finish the book (at 2-3 pages a day), because it's that painful. I was never contacted by Mr. Dickman. I had no knowledge he was writing such a book and as most people can see, he used my son as the focal point in the story line. The first two words in chapter one of the book is my son's and my name. The story should have had more about ALL 20 guys in the crew. He definitely took liberties on the events of the history of my son's life. My son was NEVER a latch key kid and that was quite offensive. Mr. Dickman stated that my son worked as a busboy/waiter before taking on the new job as a Hotshot, as well as being a bartender. May 18th was my son's 21st birthday, so he was only 21 years old for less than 6 weeks at the time of the accident. My son was not yet old enough to make drinks and he knew absolutely nothing about being a bartender. That's just a few things, as there are many more details that are not factual. One would think that if a person is going to write about someone's child, that they would take the time to ask the people who raised him. My son's life was not as hard for him growing up as Mr. Dickman portrayed it to be. He had a few moments that were difficult, but nothing out of the ordinary for most children in today's world. He was well taken care of and loved. And he was well aware of how much he was loved. He never wanted for anything. Lastly. I will add that it's pretty much of a no class move that Mr. Dickman never even sent a copy to the families he wrote about.

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