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Because it's There: A Celebration of Mountaineering, from 200 B.C. to Today (Paperback)

By Alan Weber

Taylor Trade Publishing, United States, 2003. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 224 x 163 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Mountains have long inspired the wit and daring of the world's most fascinating explorers. In this definitive collection of mountain lore, Alan Weber exhibits forty-three essays by artists and adventurers to whom climbing was more a mission than a sport. Beginning with the fabled tale of Hannibal's Roman invasion—men, horses, and elephants in tow—through the hitherto impassable Alps, the accounts progress to recent descriptions of high-peaks mountain climbing in Mount Everest and the formidable K-2. Included among the earlier pieces are Petrarcha's introspective journey to the Windy Mount; William Windham's exploration of Monteverde and the Sea of Ice in 1741; and English artist-critic John Ruskin's essay on mountain climate and culture. Literary masters portray the idyllic and imperfect aspects of mountain life: the restoration poet Andrew Marvell offers a hymn to the Barrow hills, while poems from Shelley, Lord Byron, and Matthew Arnold praise the natural beauty and fresh air of the mountain crags. *Because It's There* pays homage to the spiritual introspection and respect for nature engendered by the looming mountain ranges that...



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