



White

Rosie Thomas

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One Love. One Chance. Once Sacrifice.

For Sam McGrath a brief encounter with a young woman, on a turbulent flight, changes his life. On impulse, crazily attracted to her, he vows to follow her - all the way to Nepal.

Finch Buchanan is flying out as doctor to an expedition. But when she reaches the Himalayas she will be reunited with a man she has never been able to forget.

Al Hood has made a promise to his daughter. Once he has conquered this last peak, he will leave the mountains behind forever.

Everest towers over the group, silent and beautiful. And the passionate relationship between Finch, Al and Sam - two men driven by their own demons, and a woman with a dream of her own - begins to play itself out, with tragic consequences...

White Details

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Author : Rosie Thomas

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From Reader Review White for online ebook

Nina Draganova says

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LindyLouMac says

I have been reading and enjoying the novels of Rosie Thomas for many years now although it is a few years since I last read one. I must rectify this as I have at least four of her most recent novels waiting to be read. It is the usual excuse, so many books so little time, but listening to *White* has revived my interest. I had read this previously but decided to listen to the tapes before making them available on Bookmooch. Rosie Thomas is not only an author but a keen traveller and mountaineer which comes over in her writing, especially so in 'White' as it is about an expedition to climb Everest.

Her obvious knowledge of climbing adds to the reality of the story which set against the mountain backdrop, makes this novel much more than a complicated love story between the three protagonists. Sam McGrath whose chance encounter on a plane means he ends up in Nepal. Al Hood an experienced climber who has promised his daughter that this climb will be his last and Sam Finch who has signed up as an expedition doctor. Demons and dreams are played out against the dramatic backdrop of Everest.

I actually read this back in October 2007 before I started this blog, but I was already posting reviews on Amazon, my review was entitled *Passion and Drama*.

This is what I had to say then "This title was actually published in 2000 and it has been sitting on my bookshelf for awhile as I was not sure I wanted to read it! However I have now got around to it and enjoyed much more than expected.

I actually know very little about mountaineering so found the detail fascinating. I do find it difficult to understand why people want to push their body to its limits and beyond though. The experiences of the climbers struggling to climb Everest in this story are horrendous.

I was particularly interested to read about Namche and the trek to Everest Base Camp, as I have a niece who as part of her travels is due to go there.

If you like a good romance with some drama thrown in, you cannot fail to enjoy this".

Rita says

Há histórias que gostávamos que fossem reais. Há histórias que nos fazem sonhar, afastando-nos da realidade, durante horas incontáveis. E há histórias que nos marcam pela sua profundidade!

Foi o que aconteceu ao ler este livro. Contava que fosse somente mais um de entre tantos... mas tocou-me

como já não me acontecia há tanto tempo. A contar com uma leitura leve, de uma autora a quem já havia ouvido boas críticas, esperava umas horas de uma leitura calma, sem grandes sobressaltos. O que encontrei foram horas de uma escrita ricamente conseguida, firmemente assente numa pesquisa profunda do mundo do alpinismo. Neste campo, Thomas conseguiu distinguir-se de outras leituras que já tive deste género, com uma pesquisa cuidada de terminologia que, mal empregue ou mal fundamentada, poderia levar leitores leigos na temática do montanhismo a perderem-se em termos incompreensíveis ou desconexos.

Mas, saudada a capacidade da autora em empregar de forma concisa o seu trabalho de pesquisa antes de construção do livro devo, igualmente, debruçar-me sobre o que tornou, na minha opinião, este livro tão marcante. Se é certo que todos temos sonhos, esperanças de grandes realizações pessoais, ânsia de feitos marcantes, Thomas conseguiu traduzir esse humanismo para os seus personagens, um grupo deveras heterogéneo mas, de facto, com grandes ambições: o cume dos Himalaias, o Evereste.

Com o imponente colosso como principal cenário deste livro, Thomas foi capaz de transportar um grupo de destemidos alpinistas para o topo do mundo, sem romantismos literários, sem grandes heroísmos fantasiosos, sem milagrosas conquistas inimagináveis. Em oposição, mostrou uma realidade sofrida e enfrentada por centenas de homens e mulheres de todo o mundo, as lutas diárias e as privações, o cansaço e o desgaste físico e mental, o frio ardente que rouba os mais desafortunados ou incautos levando-os a amputações dos membros.

E depois de conquistas com que muitos de nós apenas podem sonhar, o regresso a casa, à família e aos amigos, o regresso com uma parte do corpo perdida para sempre e a sombra da morte a ensombrar o olhar. No fundo, uma reflexão sobre a barreira da morte a um futuro de sonho e esperança...

Diana says

Nada mau, nada mau mesmo.

Comprei este livro na Feira do Livro de Lisboa à uns dois anos atrás e estive na estante este tempo todo a apanhar pó. Até que eu vi o Everest (filme) à uns meses atrás e entretanto voltei a ver a lombada deste e pensei que seria um bom livro para ler a seguir.

Fiquei muito bem surpreendida quando se tornou óbvio que a autora teve um cuidado especial em retratar a subida ao Everest de uma maneira fiel e com muitas das mesmas referências do filme. Adorei.

O triângulo amoroso não é segredo nenhum, é mencionado no resumo da contracapa, mas nunca o chega a ser porque em nenhuma altura a Finch está apaixonada pelo Al e pelo Sam ao mesmo tempo, são homens com papéis diferentes na vida dela e mais uma vez... onde eu temia que saísse porcaria deparei-me com um livro que se mostrou espetacular.

Este já é o segundo livro que leio da Rosie Thomas, venham mais!

Christine says

I relish starting a new Rosie Thomas novel. There is nothing predictable about her books but you know that whatever the subject, it will be well researched and beautifully written.

'White' certainly wasn't a disappointment. I was with the team for every one of their steps on Everest, thanks to Thomas's brilliant descriptions. The love story in this book wasn't straight forward nor was it too

sentimental.

'White', is essentially about the motivation that each character has for tackling the climb up Everest; the fears that they overcome and the physical and emotional battles that they fight to get to the summit. The book doesn't end with the final ascent but goes on to follow the 'after stories' of some of the team. This made it a very complete novel that left me wanting to read more about the many men and women who have climbed the world's highest mountain.

Rosie says

Fiquei rendida.

Foi uma agradável surpresa. Tendo lido Íris & Ruby da mesma autora, não estava, confesso, particularmente motivada a ler este. A verdade é que me entusiasmou desde logo.

Gostei muito das personagens no seu geral, gostei do cruzamento das suas vidas, do peso do passado no presente. Das paisagens tão únicas do Everest, das suas agruras, desvendando um pouco sobre o povo que vive nas imediações e que sobrevive à custa deste fascínio global. Da loucura mais ou menos consciente de quem o quer enfrentar e o porquê.

O trabalho feito na pesquisa de toda a temática é mais do que suficiente para aprendermos e apreendermos a grandiosidade de todo o projecto, da magnitude da maior montanha do mundo da inclemência do clima, da altitude, ao perigo de avalanche, da exposição.

A história prende-nos, pelo suspense da concretização de tal aventura irreverente, assim como das paixões que vão assomando, subtilmente, sem diminuir tudo o resto.

O que se espera depois de ultrapassar tal façanha? O que fica? O que muda?

Tudo!

É de uma profundidade tocante que não nos deixa indiferentes.

Quem viu o filme pode bem ler o livro. São diferentes e quanto a mim ambos valem a pena.

Julia says

As usual a good read

I will never understand why someone would want to climb Everest but this book does attempt to explain it from various viewpoints. At times a rather uncomfortable read (the latter stages of the climb in particular) but definitely a page turner once the story has really got going. Ending not too twee either!

Heather says

I love this author, she gets real emotion into her stories, the Kashmir Shawl was also a goodie. This book combined Ned two of my lives, a great family drama and Mount Everest. So well written, I found myself re-reading paragraphs because of the images they created in my head. A romantic novel that does not overdo the mush, what an excellent way to spend Christmas morning.

Fiona Black says

What a lovely warm novel about ambition and relationships. Not my usual genre but I will be looking out for more of this writer's work. She writes with a talent of keeping the reader interested even through mundane everyday moments.

Alex says

Following a chance encounter near K2 Dr Finch Buchanen enrolls on an expedition to Everest as the expedition doctor. Seen in the airport just before departure, she is followed by Sam who is trying to get together with her. He'll do anything to insinuate himself into her circle.

As the expedition progresses, however, Sam realises he is actually rekindling the climbing experiences of his childhood which he had rejected in order to separate himself from his father.

Finch falls madly in love with Al, the guide, who unfortunately dies high up on the mountain.

The remainder of the story deals with picking up the pieces following Al's death and Finch's recovery from amputation following frostbite in feet and toes.

Surprisingly it does have a happy ending but not until right at the very end of the book. It does, however, probe deep into the question of why people climb big mountains.

Gwendolyn Broadmore says

Rosie Thomas's novel "White" is powerful. It's a gripping and beautifully descriptive read. The author brings you to Everest with the climbers. During her careful character development, you begin to recognize these climbers. While feeling their pain, almost to the point of touching the penetrating cold, you begin to understand that they will continue. Despite a very real risk to life and limb, in the face of stark fear, their ongoing obsession with reaching the summit will continue.

Mariazita says

Gosto da maneira de escrever de Rosie Thomas e muito dos temas que aborda nos seus livros, desta vez uma escalada até o Everest, que é um tema que me fascina, o agressividade dos elementos naturais, o ser humano a atingir os limites do suportável.

Mas nem só de escaladas fala este romance, fala de amizade, de um amor por um ideal de vida, de entre ajuda entre um grupo de pessoas que vão tentar fazer subir ao Everest.

Sam MacGrath, um jovem que encontra uma mulher no aeroporto, e que a vai seguir até ao Nepal, onde vai enfrentar um dos seus medos, a escalada de uma montanha, algo que recusou-se e fazer a muito tempo atrás, indo contra o sonho do seu pai.

Finch Buchanan, uma médica alpinista que vai ao encontro do amor da sua vida Al Hood, um alpinista que ama mais a escalada acima de tudo.

A estas personagens junta-se um grupo de homens de negócios que querem realizar o sonho de chegar ao topo do Everest.

Um emocionante relato de uma das mais difíceis escaladas de montanha do mundo. Gostei.

Esther says

Yeah this so not 'my cup of tea', the pace was too slow and even though i wasn't bored per say, wasn't excited, maybe mildly interested about what was going on and how things would unfold.

For sure didnt identify with the female protagonist - someone who thinks or right out come out and admits that "... there can be too much ease. I have had it easy in the world, but climbing mountains scrapes away all the layers of expectation and assumption. Its a challenge separate from the rest of my life." Leaves me staggering to comprehend this kind of outlook on life, where u r not only born with a silver spoon in ur mouth u spit on it and go looking for dangerous ways to "take aways the taste". Sorry (not sorry) dont get it. Not to mention her relationship with her family or her attitude towards her mother. Spoilt Rotten is something that comes to mind - not a trait i'm looking for in my female lead.

Had another problem with the so called love-story between Finch and Al, like really - who was buying that?!? (and guessing form all the rave reviews here there were many that did. Again mind boggling. Al just lost his childhood friend and because of his lifestyle and Spider's death he knows that he has also lost his wife, so he's lost figuratively and literally and he finds compassion from a female stranger and male that he is - he needs to celebrate living with sex - what a shocker. And PLZ tell me again that Finch wasn't just convenient?!? no Plz sell me the fairytale.

Even after she made the first move by joining the expedition cause she found love - yeah right. The only thing she found was someone that used her and then moved on, and guessing from how she was coddled and loved this was the first guy to not give a shit, and the experience was so new and unknown, perplexing even that she need to experience it again cause she found another "mountain" she could/would conquer. But let's face it who wants to admit that they were used and then discharged?!?

Well could go on, but anyone reading my review gets that this wasn't for me. The only reason i gave this 2 stars was for Sam and his story, he was a cute, interesting character and he was relatable, made this read bearable.

But his fascination with Finch, yeah not buying it - cause looks can only take u so far, and she isn't worth all the trouble. So - 2 stars.

Sally Wragg says

I've never really understood the lure of mountaineering (I can't stand heights for one!) but this book went some way to explaining it and what causes climbers to return to formidable mountain peaks time and again.

It was especially good concerning the likely effect on their personal relationships, too. Rosie Thomas has mountaineering experience and this shows in her writing, which was quite technical at times though this didn't spoil my enjoyment of the book in any way, rather it was informative and enhancing. I've only fairly recently discovered this author and am steadily working my way through her books. A fabulous writer, exceptionally good on relationships and what makes them tick.

Bowerbird says

After a rather slow start, this book becomes quite gripping. In places it is almost too graphic. The descriptions become vivid, traumatic and very real as the party make their attempt on Everest. Al, professional mountaineer, leads the group. Finch, the doctor, is the only woman in the expedition, but she has already tackled other mountains. Sam, after an earlier encounter with Finch follows her out to the Himalayas in the hope that she might develop feelings for him. Everest however dwarfs them all as they battle with lack of oxygen, frostbite and their own inner fears while they negotiate its glaciers, rock faces and crevasses.

Having already read *The Kashmir Shawl* it is quite apparent that Rosie Thomas has a strong feeling for this part of the world, and understands the hazards.
