


# **Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident**

*Donnie Eichar*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident

*Donnie Eichar*

## **Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident** Donnie Eichar

In February 1959, a group of nine experienced hikers in the Russian Ural Mountains died mysteriously on an elevation known as Dead Mountain. Eerie aspects of the incident—unexplained violent injuries, signs that they cut open and fled the tent without proper clothing or shoes, a strange final photograph taken by one of the hikers, and elevated levels of radiation found on some of their clothes—have led to decades of speculation over what really happened. This gripping work of literary nonfiction delves into the mystery through unprecedented access to the hikers' own journals and photographs, rarely seen government records, dozens of interviews, and the author's retracing of the hikers' fateful journey in the Russian winter. A fascinating portrait of the young hikers in the Soviet era, and a skillful interweaving of the hikers narrative, the investigators' efforts, and the author's investigations, here for the first time is the real story of what happened that night on Dead Mountain.

## **Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident Details**

Date : Published October 22nd 2013 by Chronicle Books LLC

ISBN :

Author : Donnie Eichar

Format : Kindle Edition 288 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, History, Mystery, Cultural, Russia, Adventure

 [Download Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pas ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov P ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident  
Donnie Eichar**

---

# **From Reader Review Dead Mountain: The Untold True Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident for online ebook**

**Trudi says**

This is one creepy-ass unsolved mystery, and I haven't been able to stop thinking about it. The true story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident and the inexplicable deaths of nine experienced hikers is one of those strange but true tales that leaves a person shuddering from the heebie-jeebies.

**Remote and inhospitable Ural Mountains, Russia. February 1959.**

A group of nine university students -- 7 men, 2 women -- set up their tent for the evening.

The experienced hikers begin the ritual of settling in for the night ahead, removing packs and boots and outer layers of clothing.

The stove in the middle of the large canvas tent remains unlit. Whatever happens next, occurs before the evening meal.

For reasons unknown to this day, all nine hikers suddenly abandon their tent and go running out into the frigid night improperly clothed and in sock feet. So desperate were they to get away, some of the hikers cut their way out of the back of the tent rather than go out the front.

When the bodies are later recovered some have died from hypothermia, others are found in a deep ravine with violent injuries such as crushed ribs, fractured skull, and one of the hikers is missing her tongue.

What force or event could have possibly compelled nine seasoned hikers to all lose their shit at the same time and act in such an erratic and life-threatening manner? To leave the sanctuary of their tent and flee into the frozen night barely dressed to certain death?

It has been established that it was no avalanche. So what else does that leave?

Over the years, theories have abounded, from the plausible and sane to the completely nutty. Donnie Eichar goes on a quest halfway around the world to retrace the steps of the Dyatlov group searching for the truth of what happened that night. In his quest he meets some colorful Russian characters, including a tenth member of the Dyatlov group who turned back at the last minute, a decision that saved his life.

This book is really three narratives woven together -- 1) the Dyatlov Incident pieced together from photos and journals the doomed hikers painstakingly kept along the way 2) the search and rescue which followed and 3) Eichar's trips to Russia and his own trek to Dead Mountain.

As I followed in the hikers' footsteps, reading their journal entries, seeing their smiling faces in the photographs, I couldn't help become emotional for the horror I knew was waiting for them. It's a story that's as sad as it is unsettling.

After three years of research and exhaustive interviews, Eichar is able to put forth an interesting theory about what exactly happened that night, one that certainly has more substance than UFO's or the Abominable

Snowman. Yet, it's still only a theory. The maddening, pull your hair out aspect of this story is that we will probably never know what happened that night. It is a secret that the young hikers took to their untimely and tragic graves.

**Photo: Yuri Yudin hugging Lyudmila Dubinina as he prepares to leave the group because of illness, as Igor Dyatlov looks on smiling**

---

### **Noeleen says**

I had never heard of the Dyatlov Pass Incident before and it was only through another Goodreads friend that I even came across this book, thanks Dem! What a great first read of 2015 to get the New Year off to a fabulous reading start, a five star read!

I decided not to buy the kindle version of the book as I knew it contained a lot of photographs, so I ended up buying it for my Ipad which displayed the photographs excellently. I would suggest that if you are considering reading this book you buy either a paperback, hardcopy or a copy for your tablet rather than the kindle edition. I'm not too sure how the photographs would appear on the kindle.

It's obvious that a huge amount of research was undertaken by the author for this book. The story alternates between the telling of the Dyatlov Pass Incident in 1959 and the authors own experience of re-tracing their steps.

This is a riveting read, well written, very well researched with many excellent photographic material contained throughout. The Dyatlov Pass incident continues to be surrounded by many conspiracy theories today, some reasonable, many irrational and extravagant. Donnie Eicher concluded with a very plausible and credible explanation of what he believes happened to the hikers in 1959, although still to this day nobody really knows.

I'm not a huge lover of non-fiction, it really depends on the subject matter but I could not put this book down once I began. It was a definite five star read for me and I highly recommend it if you are looking for something different to read.

---

### **Matt says**

How's this for a mystery?

In February 1959, nine Russian hikers ventured into the Ural Mountains and never returned. When searchers went looking for them, they discovered a distressing scene. The hikers' tent had been cut open. Despite ample supplies, the hikers' bodies were found outside the tent only partially dressed. Six of the hikers had

succumbed to hypothermia, but others showed signs of head trauma. One of the corpses had a missing tongue. Of course, since this was the Soviet Union – land of nuclear mishaps – some of the hikers' clothing showed signs of radiation.

It presents as quite a puzzle. Like something you might hear on Coast to Coast A.M., when you're driving cross country late at night, and all the rest of the world is asleep.

Unsurprisingly, there have been many different theories as to the fate of young Igor Dyatlov and his eight companions. They range from the mundane (avalanche) to the insane (aliens). In between people have posited that the hikers were attacked by wild animals; that they were murdered because they saw some sort of secret weapon being tested; or that the radiation on their bodies somehow ties into a vast web of interlocking plots that coalesced on the slopes of the Holatchahl Mountain and required the slaughter of the seven men and two women, all of whom were students at the Ural Polytechnic Institute, and who belonged to a hiking club seeking their Grade III certification.

### **23 year-old Igor Dyatlov, who lent his name to one of mountaineering's enduring mysteries**

*Dead Mountain* is documentarian-turned-investigator-turned-author Donnie Eichar's attempt to solve a riddle that has fascinated people for years.

Eichar tells his story in alternating chapters that toggle between the Dyatlov group's final excursion into the Urals, and Eichar's own search for answers. Both the present and latter day sections demonstrate Eichar's commitment to his project. He twice traveled to Russia; he retraced the footsteps of the hikers; he got hold of the complete police files and had them translated; he spoke with local experts; and he even scored an interview with Yuri Yudin, the tenth member of the Dyatlov group who had to turn back before his friends marched off into snow and death and the queer immortality that springs from certain tragedies.

### **One of the last photos of the group. They seem to be appearing from a storm. Another photo shows them, perhaps more accurately, disappearing into a white shroud**

No one survived those final terrible moments on the Holatchahl. Yet the hikers left behind just enough evidence for amateur sleuths to pore over, analyze, and extrapolate from. Since Dyatlov's group was going for their Grade III hiking certification, the hikers kept a diary that was inscribed daily by various members. There was also their camera, found intact, with a number of pictures of happy young people unaware of their own looming deaths, of the sand running silently through the glass of their lives. It's hard to look at the pictures now with any kind of objectivity. They are old, in black and white, and tinged with foreboding, so that even a relatively normal frame of skiers skiing in a line takes on a haunted aspect. (It should be noted that *Dead Mountain* is generously illustrated with photos that are interspersed throughout the book).

Eichar's book promises to reveal the "untold story" of the so-called Dyatlov Pass Incident, and he fulfills that promise by carefully presenting his own version of what happened.

### **Investigators at the scene of the Dyatlov group's final campsite**

I will pause here to state an abiding principle of mine: that true-life events are not spoilers. This is something I believe in strongly. People do not live their lives, they do not strive and struggle and sometimes die, in

order to fulfill the entertainment needs of voracious, on-demand media consumers. To append spoiler tags to the dramas of actual human beings strikes me almost as immoral, dehumanizing.

Now, with that said (and after that extra-special glimpse into my thought processes), I will break my own rule and avoid any more discussion of Eichar's conclusions. Since this book is carefully structured to build to the reveal, it's unfair to give any indication of where its heading. Suffice to say, UFOs are not involved. Yet Eichar's hypothesis is just weird enough to be a perfect fit for this strange tale. Best of all, Eichar provides a final chapter in which he speculates, in narrative form, about exactly what he thinks caused the hikers' deaths. It is really a rather brilliant intertwining of forensic evidence and educated guesswork, and makes for a powerful denouement.

There is something that draws us to unexplained death. Just recently, I came across a long-form article written about Lianne Froom and Kris Kremers, two young Dutch girls who went missing in the Panamanian jungle. Ten weeks after they slipped out of our reach, bone fragments and a backpack were discovered. The backpack, in eerie echoes of doomed Dyatlov, held a camera. It contained time-stamped images of a hike that started with smiles and sunlight. By the end, eight days after the girls were swallowed by the jungle, the camera's subject has changed dramatically. Now there are photos taken in complete darkness, photos that are trying desperately, unsuccessfully, to tell us something very important.

We have this collective idea that the world has gotten very small. That we are always connected and never alone. That we have solved every last enigma, answered every last question. But that's not true at all. Especially when it comes to death, what Shakespeare called the "undiscovered country." We can go to Mars and to the bottom of the deepest sea, but we cannot look a second past the moment of death. I wonder if in the compulsion to seek answers to the deaths of others, we aren't actually looking to answer those questions about ourselves.

---

## **Carol says**

### **The Dyatlov Pass Incident**

In this riveting and informative non-fiction read, Documentary Filmmaker and Author, Donnie Eichar, pieces together the mystery of *WHY* nine young experienced Russian hikers left their tent after dark without shoes or proper clothing in sub-zero temperatures back in 1956. It was determined that six died of hypothermia, the remaining three of brutal injuries.....one even missing a tongue, but.....*WHAT REALLY HAPPENED?*

Eichar does a *great* job of investigating and succinctly outlining the day-to-day activities of the group with the use of old case files, journals and interviews plus provides diagrams and interesting photographs of the hikers throughout their journey taking the reader to an eerie, frightening and believable theory.

An excellent read!

---

## **Becky says**

Wow. Wow. I have read some GREAT books as part of my 2015-2016 adventure themed read (which, btw is going on much longer than it was intended to because books just keep falling into my lap), but this book definitely stands among the best.

If you are familiar with alpinism and rock climbing stories, then you've most likely heard about Dyatlov Pass. It's a damn modern ghost story that backpackers and alpiners alike spook themselves with sitting at a campfire. In almost any backwoods or alpinism survival-story you read, the Dyatlov incident is just always on the periphery. In Soviet Russia, in the 50s, 9 HIGHLY QUALIFIED hikers set out to try a new route in the Ural Mountains, they were eventually found miles from their slashed tent, frozen to death in various states of undress, shoeless, spread in clusters apart from one another, three with grievous impact injuries suffered prior to death, and a later autopsy revealed, some with high levels of radiation. What could have possibly driven 9 professional hikers from their tent in the middle of the night without their winter gear and shoes when temperatures were around -30 degrees F? Theories have since abounded, as at the time the case was closed as "unknown compelling force", was it mountain gnomes or a yeti? An ancient curse? Was it the local indigenous tribe? Was it the military covering up something the hikers shouldn't have seen? Did it have to do with the strange bright lights dashing across the sky and reported by local herdsmen and other climbers? Nothing made sense- there were no signs of an avalanche, it couldn't have been winds as the tent stayed in place, and what's more, it had been slashed from the inside, yet there were no signs of a struggle or of alcohol or drug abuse.

To his credit, Eichar pursues this story through all avenues, dispelling internet rumors and misunderstandings about the name of the mountain- which is named Dead Mountain as an indication by local indigenous people's to the lack of game and vegetation rather than their belief that the mountain is cursed in any way, to visiting NOAA to inquire about weather phenomenon in the region. This is the definitive English-language book on the subject, and Eichar's findings leave you with the satisfied feeling of a case solved, and a story well-told.

Note: The audiobook was so-so. The narrator was very slow and there was almost no intonation in his reading, every sentence had a very predictable up then down cadence that could leave one feeling bored. Not to mention, how are you going to know how to spell any of the Russian names if you don't actually see them in print.

---

## **Amanda says**

This was an excellent nonfiction. I think this is as close to a true crime book I've read - due to the mystery surrounding the deceased Dyatlov hikers - and I enjoyed myself so much I think I'll have to start reading true crime! Eichar is foremost concerned with humanizing the nine hikers who died at the foot of Dead Mountain in 1959. This is not only humane, but very effective for storytelling as soon I was as invested in learning what happened to Igor and Zina and Georgy and the rest of the hikers as Eichar and everyone else investigating the incident was. The book is split into three timelines that eventually converge at the end of the book: following the hikers in 1959 whilst they are alive, following the ensuing investigation in 1959 once they are missing, and following Eichar as he investigates the mystery. This creates suspense at each of the timelines throughout the reading experience, which made me not want to put down this book. It is highly readable, full of important photographs and fairly short. A perfect foray into nonfiction, and especially atmospheric if you read it during cold weather!

---

## Jen says

In 1959, 9 experienced hikers disappear in the Ural Mountains. What becomes a search and rescue mission, unfortunately becomes a recovery one. It takes months before all of the bodies are located. Speculation and theories surround the mystery of what happened to make them leave the security of their tent, in subarctic temps, scantily clad, and bring them to their death. It was well researched and fascinating. This is Eicher's take of what he suspects happened to them. We may never know exactly but this seems to be the theory that comes closest to the truth. However, that being said, I'm still left with a feeling of not being satisfied. As they say, proof is in the pudding. I give it a 3.5.

---

## abby says

*"In savage winter conditions, and over a vast stretch of ground, all nine fought for their own and one another's lives with the bravery and endurance worthy of Grade III hikers. It was a distinction they would never earn, but one that each of them so rightly deserved."*

In January 1959, ten young but seasoned hikers set off from Yekaterinburg, Russia, where most of them were engineering students at a local college, on a trek through the treacherous Ural mountains. One came home early due to health issues. The remaining nine never returned.

Whatever happened at Dyalto Pass (so named after the leader of the doomed hiking group, Igor Dyalto), it remains an intriguing case for unsolved mystery buffs and conspiracy theorists the world over. Not because 9 people died in the Siberia in February but because of the condition in which they are found. Their tent is discovered abandoned, with all necessary supplies for cold weather survival still stored neatly inside. Something caused the 9 hikers to cut the tent from the inside and flee into the cold night. None were wearing proper shoes, having left their ski boots lined up inside the tent. Some of the bodies are discovered wearing little more than long underwear, their clothing instead found on some of the other hikers' bodies. One of the hikers is found wearing two watches. One woman's body is missing its tongue. The bodies look orange and radiation is detected on their clothing. At least one of the hikers seems to have been trying to climb a tree. That night there was no moon until 3 am and temperatures would have dropped to 40 below.

So why did they leave the tent when it meant almost certain death?

Like many others before him, author Donnie Eicher became fascinated with the Dyalto Pass tragedy and traveled to Russia in an attempt to recreate that fateful hike. In *Dead Mountain* he tells not only the story of the hikers but that of his own journey in Siberia. While Eicher does not identify himself as a skeptic, it's fair to say he is one. Thank goodness. If this book had ended with any suggestion that Yeti, aliens or the Soviet government had killed the hikers, I would have burned it (these, sadly, are actual and popular "theories" of what happened). What Eicher proves is that a lot of details about this case that seem nefarious at first glance in fact have easy and obvious explanations.



Where this book missed the mark a bit was when the author deviated from telling the hikers' story to trying to solve the mystery of why they left the tent that night. His final explanation does not really hold water. That said, his detailed reconstruction of what happened afterwards, in the few minutes and hours between abandoning the tent and the hikers' tragic deaths seems very plausible. Eichar seems to have no background in accident reconstruction, crime scene investigation, or investigation journalism, and I give him a lot of credit for his efforts, even if I think he was perhaps a bit misguided.

One of the reasons I loved this book is that I'm just such an unsolved mysteries junkie (both the concept and the TV show, which was my absolute favorite growing up). I do wish this book had been *more*. More about the hikers, more details about how they were found, more discussion of alternate theories (real ones, not involving aliens). 4.5 stars.

---

## Josh says

We are fragile beings. The camaraderie of a group, their emotions, their smiles only last so long: Through photographs, the eternal message of latter days.

When a book stays on your mind continuously for several days, you have to then try to reason why. Why am I still thinking about this? Why does it seem to affect me more in the long run than when I initially read it?

Humans, as a whole, are curious; the search for knowledge is innate and a troublesome curmudgeon, never letting go. When there is a situation that we can't understand, can't reason out inside our minds, the mystery haunts us until we can come to a reasonable rationalization...

This is what Donnie Eichar has done with **Dead Mountain**.

When nine hikers go missing on Holatchahl Mountain in Sverdlovsk, Russia (now known as Yekaterinburg) in 1959 and are found shortly later with an undeniable set of questionable circumstances, the enigma unfolds into conspiracy theories (UFO sighting, military testing, local indigenous murders) to an initial conclusion of *the hikers had died as a result of "an unknown compelling force"*.

Eichar takes years of records and interviews, first person accounts, and his own mission to visit the site of the incident to present not only a rational conclusion, but one that could've alluded investigators at the time due to a previous *unknown circumstance* that has only now been researched in recent years.

We may never know the complete truth, but from everything I've read on this subject, this seems the most realistic outcome.

Recommended.

---

## Zuky the BookBum says

I'd been wanting to read this nonfiction for ages but never really felt in the mood for it. Just before Christmas

I picked it up, and it did take me a couple of weeks to read, but it was worth it! An emotional and insightful look at the mysterious Dyatlov Pass Incident.

I've always been interested in mysterious happenings, at the ripe old age of 10 I was receiving books about poltergeists, spontaneous combustion, missing people cases and so on, so when I first heard about the Dyatlov Pass Incident, of course my interest was piqued! Then, when I found out there was actually a novel 'solving' the case, I was even more interested in it.

I haven't read any other novels on the case, but I can imagine most of them get straight to the nitty-gritty of what they think happened to the unfortunate hikers, Eichar, however, builds his conclusions very slowly. At times, I felt a little bit annoyed about this – I really would just love to know what the hell you think happened! – but on the other hand I loved the way he made the hikers more than just an unfortunate accident. He breathes life back into them. Eichar takes diary entries, photographs, and interviews to build an intricate and honest look into each of the hikers days that lead up to their deaths.

As for Eichar's theories on what really happened to the Dyatlov hikers, I don't want to give too much away, but it's a sad story, rather than a spooky serial-killer-ghost one. While I love mysteries of the unknown, when it comes to something as tragic as this incident, it's nice to have an answer to "what happened?"... I think Eichar's theories seem legitimate and well researched, so when the book claims to have the "true story" I can believe it.

I don't want to say too much about this novel because it's the sort of book that needs to be read to be appreciated, hence my almost mini review, but I think this was a very good and well written nonfiction novel. At times I found some of the goings-on a little tedious, but overall it was an interesting read.

---

### **April (Aprilus Maximus) says**

Found myself skimming a lot of the boring stuff coz i just wanted to know what happened!!!

---

### **Ellen Gail says**

Reminder to self: self, write a proper review for this. Twas a damn good book.

---

### **Petra says**

I heard about this incident a while back, through a youtube video and it intrigued me ever sense. I researched the story on the internet, but unfortunately all I got were crackpot theories about UFOs and Yetis. The lack of hard facts annoyed me and that's why I was so eager to read this book. And I have to say, this was a rare case for me when a book did meet my expectations.

So here it goes....

Nine experienced hikers die in the Ural Mountains. What's really unusual though, is that they cut their way out of their tent ( their only safe heaven in the subzero temperatures of the Russian winter) in the middle of the night , most of them lightly dressed and with no shoes on. So what happened that night?

The author becomes obsessed with this story ( I mean who wouldn't) and travels to Russia in the middle of winter to retrace the hiker's final journey.

The book has three timelines

- 1) The hikers POV, reconstructed from their journals and photographs.
- 2) The Search party's POV, also well documented.
- 3) His own journey and quest to solve the mystery.

I have to say, he did a very good job, and his final explanation and reconstruction of the events did satisfy my curiosity. ( although we will probably never know with a 100% certainty what happened)

The book also contains a lot of photographs of the hikers. Their smiling faces make it even harder to read the book.

5 stars and a recommendation for everyone, whether they are familiar with the story or not.

---

## **Dem says**

An Excellent Read.

Thank you to Mr Donnie Eichar for finally satisfying my curiosity on the Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident. I had come across this story on a couple of occasions but had very little information on it and was so glad to have located this book while searching for a completely different book on the internet

***" In February 1959 a group of nine experienced hikers in the Russian Ural Mountains died mysteriously on an elevation known as Dead Mountain. Eerie aspects of the incident included violent injuries, signs that they cut open and fled the tent without proper clothing or shoes, a strange final photograph taken by one of the hikers, and elevated levels of radiation found on some of their clothes has led to decades of speculation over what really happened.***

***This gripping work of literary nonfiction delves into the mystery through unprecedented access to the hikers' own journals and photographs, rarely seen government records, dozens of interviews, and the author's retracing of the hikers' fateful journey in the Russian winter.***

When I started reading this book I just couldn't put it down as the research and information supplied by the author was excellent. I love how he set the scene from page one and engrossed the reader with straight forward details and facts so much so that I felt I was hiking along with these young people and I felt a connection with the story throughout. I love how Donnie explores all the theories put forward throughout the years and how he finally manages to give a credible and excellent explanation for the deaths of the hikers.

This was one of those books that had me totally engrossed and when I finished it I must admit I spent an hour researching the Internet for photos of the mountain and places named in the book. The book does have photos and a map which I always find so useful. I just couldn't stop thinking about the Incident or the book and for me that's a 5 star read.

This is an extremely interesting and well written account of the Story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident and for anyone interested in reading true life adventures.

---

## **Rowan says**

I read this book over a weekend and found it impossible to put down! Since then, I have been devouring any piece of information I can find on the Dyatlov Pass Incident. That alone is testament to the passion and infectious enthusiasm for the case that Donnie Eichar has put into this book. Trying to solve the mystery behind "an unknown compelling force" kept me gripped throughout!

One of the first things you notice is the respectful tone of the book. Each chapter follows the story of the hikers, the searchers/investigation and Eichar's own adventure to the Urals. While the timeframe jumps around slightly, the book soon finds a nice rhythm and Eichar manages these different narratives brilliantly – it results in a book that never treads water.

The use of photographs throughout really brought the story and hikers to life, making me feel like I was standing witness to their 1959 journey. Each member of the Dyatlov group is introduced and brought to life by Eichar's attention to detail – all of a sudden, these are not merely 9 people who mysteriously perished, but individuals I felt a personal connection to. It made the tragedy seem so much more upsetting and unsettling.

The author's adventures and investigations in Russia itself were some of the most exciting. I couldn't help but wish that Eichar had created a documentary about this (he's a filmmaker too). His interactions with Yuri Kuntsevich (President of Dyatlov Foundation) and his wife, were equally parts heartwarming, intriguing and gripping – especially when Yuri Yudin (the only surviving Dyatlov member) starts making an appearance! Donnie's interactions with the Russians often interjected some humour into what was otherwise a tragic story – the image of Oleg and his "Russian snow bath" still makes me laugh!

The book seemed to bring about even more questions involving the mystery: What made the experienced hikers abruptly abandon their tent? What was the bright rocket, thundering sound and bright orbs witnessed in the area? Why did the authorities treat the victims' families so badly in the aftermath? Why did the KGB attend their funerals? Why did the lead investigator suddenly go to Moscow, then return and abruptly abandon his inquiries into the orbs, lights and UFO theories?

Things just got stranger as the book progressed and high levels of radiation were found on the hikers' bodies.

Stranger still, was Lev Ivanov (lead investigator) being convinced the orbs in the sky were connected to their deaths.

The book took a fascinating turn towards the end as scientific explanations behind the mystery were explored. It was fascinating when the author met with atmospheric physicists at a high-security research location in the U.S! Without spoiling anything, the scientific theories made a lot of sense – and I never would have thought reading a Lemmy Kilmister biography years ago would help me understand it!

It seems the infamous “unknown compelling force” really was the closest conclusion (given science and technology) at the time that investigators could have concluded. The author’s final chapter recreated events on the hikers’ final day (based on conclusions drawn from other parts of the book). It gave the mystery as much closure as it probably ever will and most importantly, ended very respectfully. One of the best books I’ve read this year!

**Rest in Peace Igor, Yuri, Zina, Alexander, Sasha, Lyuda, Rustik, Georgy, Kolya and Yuri. You were the Grade III hikers you aspired to be and so much more.**

---