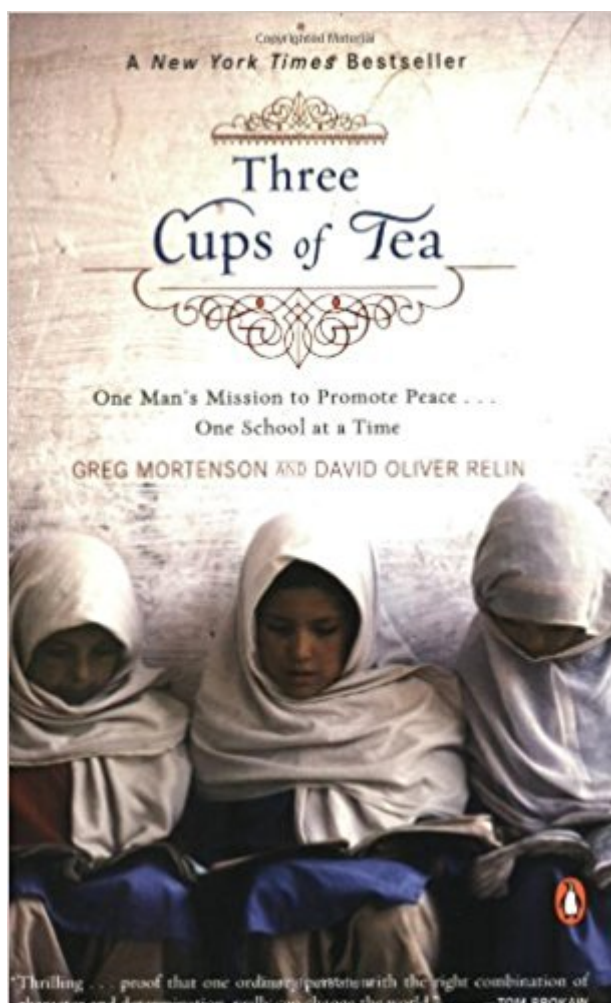


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# Three Cups Of Tea: One Man's Mission To Promote Peace - One School At A Time



## Synopsis

The astonishing, uplifting story of a real-life Indiana Jones and his humanitarian campaign to use education to combat terrorism in the Taliban's backyard. Anyone who despairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson, a homeless mountaineer who, following a 1993 climb of Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. As it chronicles Mortenson's quest, which has brought him into conflict with both enraged Islamists and uncomprehending Americans, *Three Cups of Tea* combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #27,133 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > History > Asia > Pakistan](#) #3 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Non-Governmental Organizations](#) #4 in [Books > History > Asia > Central Asia](#)

## Customer Reviews

From Viking Press In regards to the 60 Minutes episode that aired April 17, 2011: "Greg Mortenson's work as a humanitarian in Afghanistan and Pakistan has provided tens of thousands of children with an education. 60 Minutes is a serious news organization and in the wake of their report, Viking plans to carefully review the materials with the author."

Starred Review. Some failures lead to phenomenal successes, and this American nurse's unsuccessful attempt to climb K2, the world's second tallest mountain, is one of them. Dangerously ill when he finished his climb in 1993, Mortenson was sheltered for seven weeks by the small

Pakistani village of Korphe; in return, he promised to build the impoverished town's first school, a project that grew into the Central Asia Institute, which has since constructed more than 50 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan. Coauthor Relin recounts Mortenson's efforts in fascinating detail, presenting compelling portraits of the village elders, con artists, philanthropists, mujahideen, Taliban officials, ambitious school girls and upright Muslims Mortenson met along the way. As the book moves into the post-9/11 world, Mortenson and Relin argue that the United States must fight Islamic extremism in the region through collaborative efforts to alleviate poverty and improve access to education, especially for girls. Captivating and suspenseful, with engrossing accounts of both hostilities and unlikely friendships, this book will win many readers' hearts. (Mar.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is an incredibly important, uplifting story of an "average" American who made great sacrifices and risked his life to help others in a land far, far away. Greg Mortensen is a true hero and has done more to help eradicate the root causes of terrorism (the lack of education and/or the brainwashing of impressionable children in the guise of education) than just about everyone else. He is a great example of how much difference one person can make in the lives of thousands of others. This should be required reading for students, politicians, and others around the world. Having said all of that, I did not like the way that Greg's story was told. The author, David Oliver Relin, is a journalist and I expected him to be more objective. It is clear that Greg Mortensen is a hero, but the author feels the need to bludgeon the reader over the head with that statement when is not at all necessary. Anyone reading the facts will come to that conclusion. I appreciated the photos which were provided. They put a face to several of the key Pakistani and American people portayed in the book, so they were more real. The map was also helpful except that several of the towns which were discussed in the last quarter of the book weren't pictured (so it was harder to place them in geographical context). I recommend this book to everyone, and I plan to donate to the charity which Greg established.

I loved this story and am very impressed with Greg Mortenson as a human being. He's pretty much everything I admire in a person. I loved his own personal story as well as the story of his career, and reading this book has given me the desire to do something altruistic myself (don't know what yet, but something). I would like to say, however, that in places this book did become quite slow, and I picked it up and put it down many times. Although I do not agree with some of the vitriolic comments

other reviewers have made about David O. Relin's writing, I think the story could've been more "lively". I struggled over whether to give this book 3 or 4 stars, and only gave it 4 due to its message. Oh, yeah... I've heard some negative things regarding Mortenson's atheism and the fact that he (unlike his missionary parents) is not striving to "save" non-Christian souls. I think this is very wrong. His intention is to bring "basic education" to children, not to convert them to another (America's) faith! I think it is sad that this story - and this man's work - is not being appreciated by many who consider themselves to be spiritually enlightened.

Three Cups of Tea : One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations ... One School at a Time I noticed this book because of its title: How to Fight Terrorism. I was intrigued, so I ordered a sample downloaded to my Kindle. It was a real page turner. Couldn't put it down. So, I ordered the book and read it. Every now and then, politics made a brief appearance, but it was no big deal. Everybody is entitled to their own opinion. This is America, right? But the book isn't about politics. Mortenson's story begins before 9/11 and continues after it. There's a before and after comparison that gets made. A vaguely political story gets to be a little bit about war also. But not how to fight it. Essentially, the book is about a humanitarian mission that Mortenson makes as his life's work. How one interprets the significance of his work may be influenced by one's own political point of view. The political point of view is what is being used to sell this book. For this reason, I'll deduct a star. Mortenson gets nowhere in his mission over there if he was deemed to be on a political mission. He would have been rejected or even killed. So the story is being used for political consumption over here. Too bad. It's a great story in its own right. Let's not spoil it by politicizing it.

The story itself? You could have sold it to me handwritten. It's fantastic. Relin's writing, however, is a mouthful--long, convoluted sentences and long sentence fragments are the worst offenders for me, and I have to reread some paragraphs to try and figure out what exactly they say. But the sequence of "scenes" is good, the dialogue acceptable, and the descriptions of mountain landscapes, if you take the time to digest it and imagine it, quite good as well. I bought the book intending to read it over an entire semester in my free time, but ended up reading the first third in a couple of days, willing myself to put it down in the wee hours of the morning. Will definitely read "Stones Into Schools" next.

Book is actually a bit difficult to read, in terms of flowing easy and keeping a good pace. Read Krakauer's book that systematically shows that many parts of this book are fabricated, and that his

main story is completely inaccurate. The book is inspiring at times, but Greg's actions have been poor, in terms of having an institution that is managed well, and funds go to help the kids he claims he helps.

Mesmerizing tale about a region inhospitable on so many levels. Inspired by the passion and commitment of Gregg and the tribal leaders.

Tedious and boring.

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