



Salt to Summit: A Vagabond Journey from Death Valley to Mount Whitney (NONE)

By Daniel Arnold



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Salt to Summit: A Vagabond Journey from Death Valley to Mount Whitney (NONE) By Daniel Arnold

From the depths of Death Valley, Daniel Arnold set out to reach Mount Whitney in a way no road or trail could take him. Anything manmade or designed to make travel easy was out. With a backpack full of water bottles, and the remotest corners of desert before him, he began his toughest test yet of physical and mental endurance.

Badwater Basin sits 282 feet below sea level in Death Valley, the lowest and hottest place in the Western Hemisphere. Mount Whitney rises 14,505 feet above sea level, the highest point in the contiguous United States. Arnold spent seventeen days traveling a roundabout route from one to the other, traversing salt flats, scaling dunes, and sinking into slot canyons. Aside from bighorn sheep and a phantom mountain lion, his only companions were ghosts of the dreamers and misfits who first dared into this unknown territory. He walked in the footsteps of William Manly, who rescued the last of the forty-niners from the bottom of Death Valley; tracked John LeMoigne, a prospector who died in the sand with his burros; and relived the tales of Mary Austin, who learned the secret trails of the Shoshone Indians. This is their story too, as



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Editorial Review

Review

Praise for *Early Days in the Range of Light*

“Ever wish you could travel back to climbing’s early days and follow the earliest first-ascent visionaries? This fantasy comes to life . . . In this elegant narrative.” —Climbing Magazine

“A spirited journey . . . This well-written memoir and travelogue should find a welcome home in many climbing collections.” —Kirkus

“With great originality and insight . . . This is a splendid chronicle of early climbing in the Sierra Nevada.” —Royal Robbins

About the Author

Daniel Arnold is the author of *Early Days in the Range of Light*, and his work has appeared in *Rock and Ice*, *The Mountain Gazette*, and elsewhere. He lives in Sonora, California, with his wife and son.

Users Review

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Lucia Morrone:

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