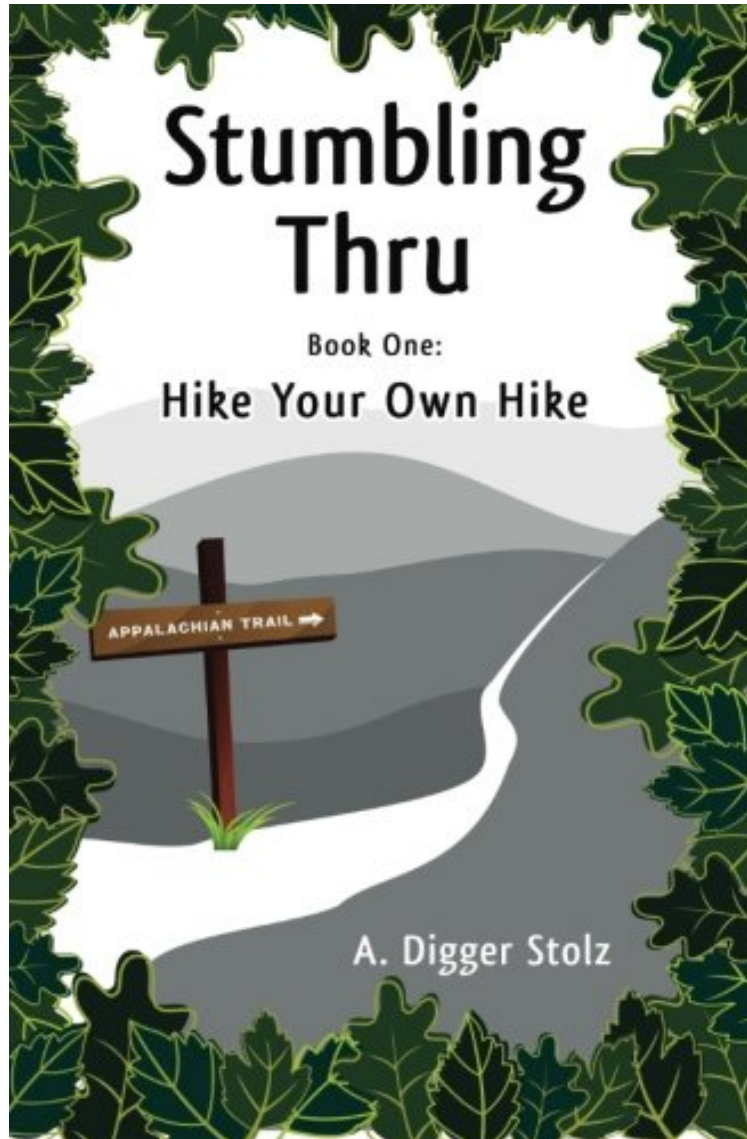


[Free] Stumbling Thru: Hike Your Own Hike (Volume 1)

## Stumbling Thru: Hike Your Own Hike (Volume 1)

*A. Digger Stolz*

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**A. Digger Stolz : Stumbling Thru: Hike Your Own Hike (Volume 1)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stumbling Thru: Hike Your Own Hike (Volume 1):

44 of 44 people found the following review helpful. FinallyBy William D HiblerI've been reading AT and trail books for years and have found the majority either dull, inaccurate or nothing more than glorified guide books aimed at packaging a stack of shoe gazing philosophies and irrelevant autobiographical nonsense into a format with mass following. Thank God a writer like Stolz comes along and finally gets it right. From page one these are real life

characters, situations, and minute details of trail life that require real experience and craft to recreate. Instead of hammering us over the head with his latest transcendentalist epiphanies, he tells a good story that had me laughing out loud and turning pages. There is a mash-up of journal entries, haikus, Elmore Leonard style dialogue and a welcome disdain for longwinded nature-writing here that anyone who has spent time on trail will immediately recognize and appreciate. It's taken too long for the world of trail literature to spill into the world of serious fiction, but I'm glad someone has finally decided to shake up the status quo. Now on to book two.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Well done! By Jennifer Sullivan Mr. Stolz brings to life an ensemble cast that fit neatly into small space. In much the same way that the characters strive to shed ounces from their packs and make sure that every item is absolutely necessary, Stolz moves his many pieces around the board without wasting a line. It's clear that no one thru hiking the AT is truly moving toward anything, rather they are all hiking away from something. While his characters strut and fret away from ex-husbands, current wives, bad dreams, and ungrateful classrooms, we are lucky to find at the books center: The Trail. In casting the AT at the heart of his book, Stolz gives us the trail, the way Kerouac gave us the road and Thoreau gave us the woods. If you're looking for a lovable band of misfits, who warm your heart, look elsewhere, but if you want to get on the trail and just don't have the damn time; get ten pages in and then try and put it down. The time will.... well, Flutterby.

Looking forward to book two.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A novel approach to thru-hike experience By Customer I enjoy reading trip logs of just about anybody's thru-hike of the AT or PCT and am very familiar with the wide variety of writing styles, and the whole spectrum of writing ability. Digger did something a bit different...he took his experience thru-hiking the AT and turned it into a novel with a main cast of half a dozen or so characters (well, at least the ones who made it to Katahdin). I had fun reading this book, because it really captured the essence of thru-hiking the long trails without a blow by blow of the trail, the shelters, and everything else involved with the successful thru-hike. Dialog makes a story and the dialog in this novel sounded an awful lot like the dialog in my experience on the trail. I guess I have to admit that I wish it wasn't quite so accurate since on paper 2200 miles of f-bombs really starts to add up. On the whole...good job Digger.

Welcome to the world of the Appalachian Trail. Every year, thousands of pilgrims arrive at Georgias Springer Mountain and set off with hopes of reaching Mt. Katahdin in Maine. Roughly ten percent ever complete the journey. Its more than likely that in the ATs long, storied history, Walter is the first person to thru-hike against his will. He is out-of-shape, out-of-sorts and, now that his wife has decided enough is enough, hes out of the house too. Its that classic scenario: Hike or ELSE! Since the poor, morose Walter cant figure an ELSE he sets off on the longest walk of his life. While braving the great Eastern woods, Walter meets an eclectic cast of hopeful thru-hikers. As they journey northward, this rollicking band suffers through every hardship that Americas premiere hiking trail can throw at them. It isnt long before Walter is looking at life through new eyes and just maybe for the first time in forever, starting to feel better about the world and his place in it. But no way is that alone going to be enough to get him to Maine.