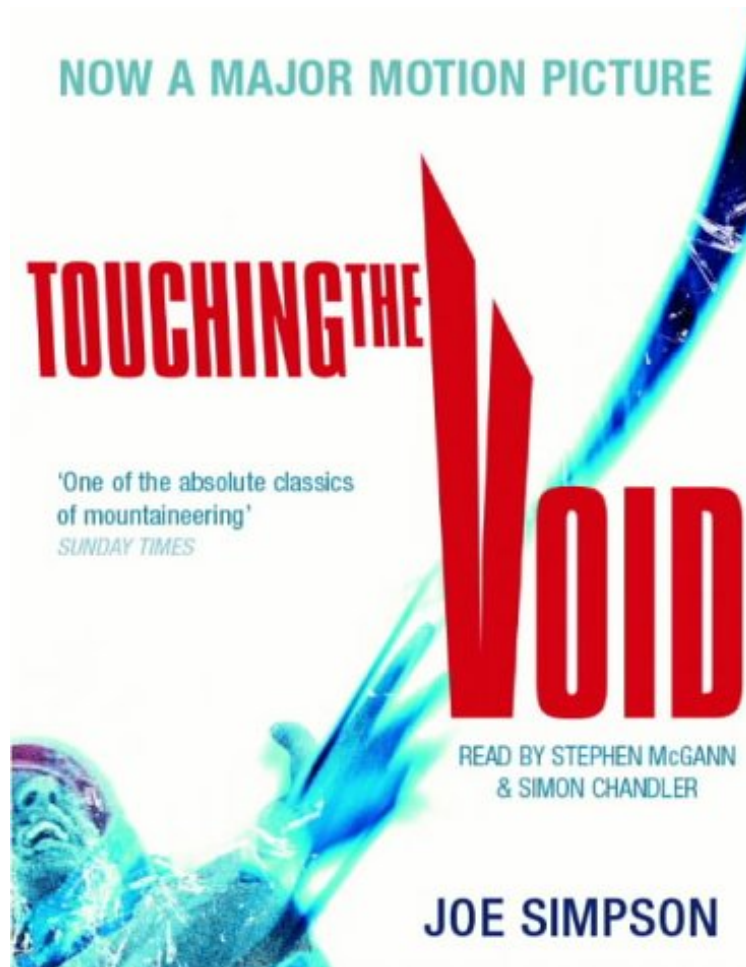


(Library ebook) Touching the Void

## Touching the Void

*Joe Simpson*

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**Joe Simpson : Touching the Void** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Touching the Void:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Eloquent AgonyBy JGI've read a few mountain climbing books but this true story entrapped me more than the others. The first hand accounts by the author and his climbing partner so clearly not only described the terrain, the exertions, the fears, but made me feel them to an extent I have not experienced reading other true life accounts. I could not put it down. And when I finally did, exhausted, and shared it with my wife she stayed up all night until she, too, had come to the end.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The triumph and the tragedy...By RavenJoe SimpsonOne mans journey back from the edge of death In 1985, Joe Simpson and Simon Yates made an assault on the previously unclimbed West Face of Siula Grande, in Peru. Reaching the summit was a proud moment. Now, it was time to climb down. And thats when disaster struckThere were no fixed ropes, but Simpson and Yates were connected by 150 feet of line. When Simpson fell suddenly he shattered his right leg at the knee. In excruciating pain, Simpson was unable to do much climbing. Yates tied two

ropes together, making 300 feet. He began to slowly lower Simpson bit by bit down the mountain. Unfortunately, Simpson again fell. Unable to pull him back up, Yates made the only decision he could. Badly worn out himself, he had to ensure that he could climb down to base camp. He cut the rope, sending Simpson into a crevasse. Very certain that Simpson was now dead, Yates carefully made his way into camp. This is the story of a miracle. By any odds, Simpson should have died. Unable to use his right leg, Simpson made a perilous journey back to camp, dragging himself inch by inch. The power of the human spirit is often amazing. In his own words, Simpson tells the story of his ordeal. His story is interspersed with Yates' thoughts, the loss of his friend and the guilty thoughts of his decision to cut the rope in spite of the fact that he knew he could have done nothing else. Bravery and adventure in the world of mountain climbing! I give the book five stars! Quoth the Raven<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. Reaching Beyond One's Limit By Richard J. Carriger I climbed, I clawed, I hung on for dear life through the entire book. This true story of two men climbing in the mountains of Peru had me figuratively climbing with them. This well-written book describes what goes on in a climber's mind and the physical toll one experiences while knowing death is possible at any moment. The range of a climber's emotions are extreme. One can be joyful over the smallest detail like a sip of warm tea in the morning or an ice pick that never leaves your hand. The terror of what can happen in the blink of an eye (it happens) and the knowledge of an experienced climber of what to expect now begs the question; is it worth it to go on? An inner voice constantly prodded Joe Simpson forward despite the hopelessness that lay before him. My fingers got cold just reading it. We all have a built-in desire for survival; some more some less. I believe my desire to live, to survive, to just keep going, grew from experiencing this book. Richard

Touching the Void is a heart-stopping, true account of Joe Simpson's terrifying adventure in the Peruvian Andes. He and his climbing partner, Simon, reached the summit of the remote peak, Siula Grande. A few days later, Simon staggered into base camp, exhausted and frost-bitten, with news that Joe was dead. What really happened to Joe makes not only an epic of survival but a compelling testament of friendship.

.com Concise and yet packed with detail, Touching the Void, Joe Simpson's harrowing account of near-death in the Peruvian Andes, is a compact tour de force that wrestles with issues of bravery, friendship, physical endurance, the code of the mountains, and the will to live. Simpson dedicates the book to his climbing partner, Simon Yates, and to "those friends who have gone to the mountains and have not returned." What is it that compels certain individuals to willingly seek out the most inhospitable climate on earth? To risk their lives in an attempt to leave footprints where few or none have gone before? Simpson's vivid narrative of a dangerous climbing expedition will convince even the most die-hard couch potato that such pursuits fall within the realm of the sane. As the author struggles ever higher, readers learn of the mountain's awesome power, the beautiful--and sometimes deadly--sheets of blue glacial ice, and the accomplishment of a successful ascent. And then catastrophe: the second half of Touching the Void sees Simpson at his darkest moment. With a smashed, useless leg, he and his partner must struggle down a near-vertical face--and that's only the beginning of their troubles. "A truly astounding account of suffering and fortitude."--"The Times (London)" Simpson touches a nerve of the mountaineering community and the hearts of others."--"Los Angeles Times" Told with lyrical quality and stunning immediacy, "Touching the Void transcends its genre and becomes accessible to readers who have never had any desire to climb a glacier."--"New York Newsday" A gripping narrative that should excite armchair adventurers everywhere."--"Cleveland Plain-Dealer From the Publisher 5 1.5-hour cassettes