

Venables is not, of course, an average climber, nor were any of his companions on this trip. But in many ways this book speaks to the aspects of climbing that I value, more so than those espoused in other climbing narratives, which of late seem to require some desperate sensational scheme or tragedy. Here we have, as Bob Bates said so well in the title of his book, "Mystery, Beauty, Danger." Added to the mix are capable companions and a little luck and humility. What more could one want from a book, or a climb?

DAVID STEVENSON

IN BRIEF

Regions of the Heart: The Triumph and Tragedy of Alison Hargreaves, by David Rose and Ed Douglas (National Geographic Press, \$25), is an important biography that seeks to set the record straight about Hargreaves—her drive, her status as a professional, and her responsibility as a parent. Rose and Douglas are simultaneously objective and sympathetic in their telling of her complex life's story.

Left for Dead: My Journey Home from Everest, by Beck Weathers (Villard, \$24.95). The story of Weathers' survival on Everest in 1996 is already well-known; this is more the story of his life, and Weathers casts a cool eye on himself: depression, dysfunction, and obsession.

The Eiger: Vertical Arena. Edited by Daniel Anker (Mountaineers Books, \$32.95). Anker has collected 17 climbers' views in this profusely illustrated history.

Everest: Alone at the Summit. Stephen Venables (Thunders Mouth Press, \$14.95). First American edition of Venables' climb of the Kangshung Face of Everest (see Ed Webster's *Snow in the Kingdom*, reviewed above). Tom Holzel called it an intensely told epic described with "great realism" in these pages in 1990.

Across the Frozen Himalaya, by Harish Kohli (Indus Publishing, New Delhi) describes a 2000-kilometer ski traverse from the Karakoram Pass to the Lipu Lekh Pass through the coldest winter in two decades. It is a remarkable adventure by Kohli, who, in 1981-'82, traversed the Himalaya on foot—8000 kilometers in 475 days.

Denali: A Literary Anthology, edited by Bill Sherwonit (Mountaineers Books, \$18.95), is a new volume that collects a variety of literary works. Although the mountaineering accounts collected here will be familiar to most readers of this journal, the "Native Sacred Stories" and natural history sections make a valuable contribution. A great book for readers new to the area. Sherwonit's *To the Top of Denali: Climbing Adventures on North America's Highest Peak* (Alaska Northwest Books, \$14.95) has been reissued in a tenth anniversary edition. Sherwonit has added salient chapters on the tragedies of the 1992 season and guiding on the mountain to an already indispensable history of climbing on Denali.

Shishapangma: The Alpine-Style Ascent of the South-West Face, by Doug Scott and Alex MacIntyre (Mountaineers Books, \$19.95), was the winner of the first Boardman Tasker Award in 1984 when it was published as *The Shishapangma Expedition*. This new edition has additional photographs and several pages of new historical data.