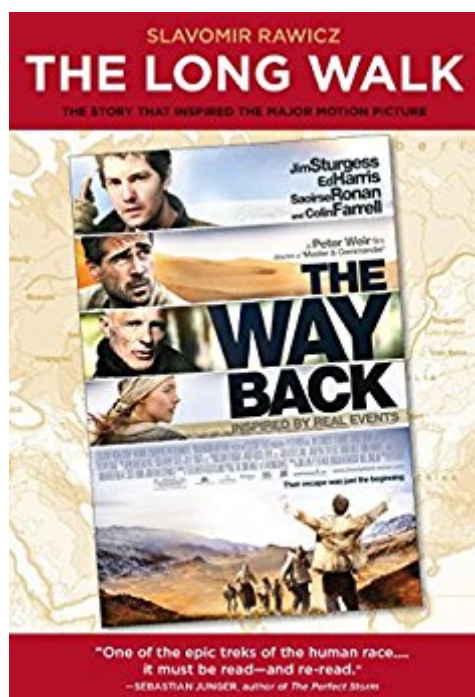


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Long Walk: M/TV



Synopsis

MORE THAN HALF A MILLION COPIES SOLD! The classic adventure story that inspired the new major motion picture *The Way Back*, directed by Peter Weir *** "I hope *The Long Walk* will remain as a memorial to all those who live and die for freedom, and for all those who for many reasons could not speak for themselves." --Slavomir Rawicz *Los Angeles Times* *The Long Walk* must be read and reread, and passed along to friends. --National Geographic Adventure *The Vancouver Sun* It's not just some Polish bloke who wanted to get home. It's about how we all struggle on every day. Somehow or other we find a reason to keep on going and it's the same here but on an epic scale." --Benedict Allen, explorer and bestselling author of *Into the Abyss* and *Edge of Blue Heaven* *** In 1941, the author and six fellow prisoners of war escaped a Soviet labor camp in Yakutsk -- a camp where enduring hunger, cold, untended wounds, and untreated illnesses, and avoiding daily executions were everyday feats. Their march -- over thousands of miles by foot -- out of Siberia, through China, the Gobi Desert, Tibet, and over the Himalayas to British India is a remarkable statement about man's desire to be free. Written in a hauntingly detailed, no-holds-barred way, the book inspired the Peter Weir film *The Way Back*, due for release in late 2010. Previous editions have sold hundreds of thousands of copies; this edition includes an afterword written by the author shortly before his death, as well as the author's introduction to the book's Polish edition. Guaranteed to forever stay in the reader's mind, *The Long Walk* will remain a testament to the strength of the human spirit, and the universal desire for freedom and dignity. *** Six-time Academy Award nominee Peter Weir (*Master and Commander*, *The Truman Show*, and *The Dead Poets Society*) recently directed *The Way Back*, a much-anticipated film based on *The Long Walk*. Starring Colin Farrell, Jim Sturgess, and Ed Harris, it is due for release in late 2010.

Book Information

File Size: 765 KB

Print Length: 289 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1849012091

Publisher: Lyons Press; Mti Rep edition (November 16, 2010)

Publication Date: July 28, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00MJD7AMC

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #51,898 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #5

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Russia #40

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Customer Reviews

I liked this book. It is a heart-felt memoir of an escape from a WW II Soviet labor camp and a year-long trek from northeastern Siberia to India. Inspiring and adventurous. What I particularly enjoyed were the descriptions of the kindness that the local people throughout Siberia, Tibet, and the in the Gobi bestowed on these trekkers, who had minimal food and equipment. If they hadn't received help from the locals, they would not have survived. The descriptions of the geography were also engaging. My only criticism of the book was that some parts strained credibility. I'm not saying the story is apocryphal, but perhaps the recounting from memory missed some important details. For example, in describing their crossing of the Gobi desert, Rawicz says they sometimes walked as much as eight days without water. This is hard to believe. Walking three days in most desert environments without water is almost always fatal. Nevertheless, a good read.

I read this book some years ago. I don't think most people could put the book down once they begin reading it. To think of several individuals -- initially seven, then eight, and finally four, walking from northeast Siberia south across the Gobi Desert, China, the Himalayas and into India to escape a prison camp seems impossible. It says much for the human spirit and the desire for freedom. There are a couple of things in the Kindle version that seemed to have been dropped from the original version. One was that some of the escapees ate locusts following a locust storm and millions of them were lying, dead and alive; others could not be made to try them. There was a locust storm in the Kindle version, but no mention of eating or not eating them. An occurrence at the labor camp in Siberia was not mentioned in the Kindle version. I have suggested this book to a number of people.

An amazing and engrossing story. The courage and perseverance and caring these men showed for each other was enlightening and inspiring. Read this story. You won't be disappointed

Second time I have read this book and wanted it in my kindle. 1st time was many years ago when it first came out, this translation I believe was better.

What an amazing story of human endurance! Who of us could imagine doing such a thing ? Or of even needing to. Most of us would just lie down in the mine and die without even thinking of escape. Each of his adventures could be a stand alone story. Well done.

Grim account of the author's abuse as a Polish soldier after capture by the Russians in 1939. Subjected to torture in various prisons, he refused to say what they wanted him to say (which would have been lies) and ended up in a prison in Siberia. He and the other prisoners had to WALK from Moscow to Siberia, tethered together by chains and walking behind a truck. Once in the prison, he starts to think about escape, enlists the help of a few others, and finally puts the plan into action. The rest of the book is the unimaginable account of these men, walking through snow, ice, mountain passes, then into the Gobi desert with heat, sand, and baking sun. Some of them die along the way, and some make it all the way to India and the safety of the British forces after a year of travel. It is an amazing story of the strength and resiliency of the human spirit.

Regardless of whether Slavomir Rawicz's book contains the exact truth does not alter the remarkable account the narrative offers. The story also confirms that despite the harshness of warring nations and clashing ideologies there is much humanity in the world, and without it Rawicz and his companions would have certainly perished. Nicholas R.W. Henning
Australian Author

Questions have been raised about the "truthfulness" of the story. I found it to be an enjoyable and interesting read regardless. Given the book was written through a 2nd person and many years after the fact, to expect every event to be "exactly" as it happened seems unrealistic.

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