

# UNJUSTIFIABLE RISK?

## The Story of British Climbing

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ISBN: **9781852846794** (Short Code: 679)

Publication Date: **February 2012**

Price: **£9.99**

Edition: **Second** (replaces 9781852846275)

Author: **Simon Thompson**

Paperback Gloss Laminated, 400 pages

19.8cm x 12.9cm

To the impartial observer Britain does not appear to have any mountains. Yet the British invented the sport of mountain climbing and for two periods in history British climbers led the world in the pursuit of this beautiful and dangerous obsession. Unjustifiable Risk is the story of the social, economic and cultural conditions that gave rise to the sport, and the achievements and motives of the scientists and poets, parsons and anarchists, villains and judges, ascetics and drunks that have shaped its development over the past two hundred years.

Climbing books as intelligent, readable and wide-ranging as this don't come along very often; cherish the opportunity to read this one.-  
Climb magazine, December 2010

-...this is a book that anyone interested in British climbing needs to read-  
Geographical magazine Oct 2010

Today's climbers would be instantly recognisable to their Victorian predecessors, with their desire to escape from the crowded complexity of urban society and willingness to take -unjustifiable- risks in pursuit of beauty, adventure and self-fulfilment.

### Key marketing points

- Hardback has sold over 3500 copies.
- Focuses on the main dramas and heroics while maintaining a clear overall viewpoint and engaging story
- Shortlisted for both Banff and Boardman Tasker Prizes for Mountain Literature 2010

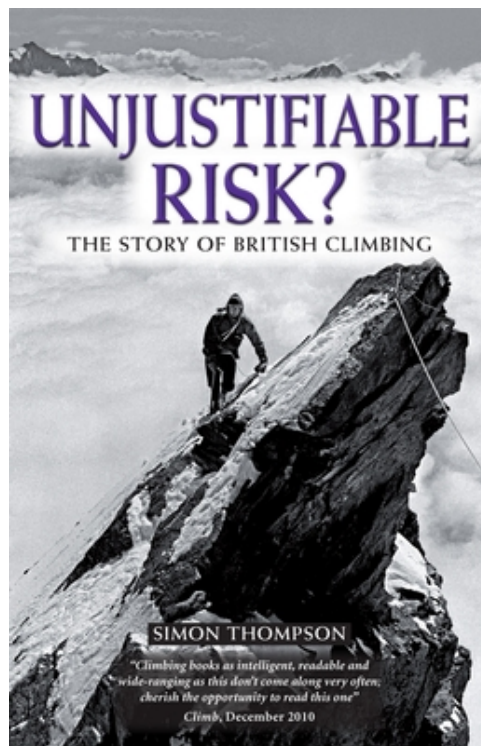
### About the author

Simon Thompson started climbing at the age of 16 and has been fascinated by the sport ever since. A former director of Anglo American and chairman of Tarmac, he has lived in seven different countries and currently sits on the boards of companies headquartered in Sweden, the UK and the US, but he continues to escape to the mountains whenever time permits.

### Related books

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