

Coronation Everest

Jan Morris

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Jan Morris : Coronation Everest before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Coronation Everest:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. AN OLDIE BUT A GOODIE...By lawyeraauThis is a wonderfully written book of the events surrounding the historic Everest expedition of 1953 which saw Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay summit Mount Everest. It was written by special correspondent for The London Times, James Morris, who accompanied the expedition and first broke the news to the world of the successful summit. The news fortuitously reached England on the eve of Queen Elizabeth's the II coronation of June 2, 1953, and was the cause for much nationalistic pride. Hence, the name of the book.The book is reflective of the time in which it was written and evokes a feeling of an era long gone. Therein lies its charm. Nostalgia buffs will love it, as will those readers looking to consume anything about Everest. It will not disappoint, though the book is not about the climb to the summit in the strictest sense. The book chronicles in great detail the author's journey to Everest, as well as his personal experiences and observations while at Everest, waiting to break the story of the end result of the historic climb to the summit. It also chronicles the cloak and dagger methodology which he employed in order maintain exclusivity for The London Times.It should be noted in the interest of clarity and to avoid confusion, that times do indeed change. The author, James Morris, underwent a gender change subsequent to the original 1958 publication of this book. When the book was released again, however, the publisher did so under the name which the author had since adopted, Jan Morris. James or Jan, the author is a hell of a writer, and the book is well worth reading.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another wonderful Jan Morris travel/real adventure storyBy Frederic Goodman SanfordAnother

wonderful Jan Morris travel/real adventure story. I have read many of her books, currently reading Trieste. I recommend all of them. F.G. Sanford M.D. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A rattling good story from a journalist point of view, on the last great adventure. By Doc Highly recommend this book, for anyone interested in the Everest history. Jan Morris has crafted, with her skill as a talented story teller, the first successful ascent of Everest from the journalist point of view. Sent by the Times of London to get the exclusive story of the climb it weaves within the narrative of the quest, how Jan Morris was able to get the classic newspaper scoop on the historic climb to the summit, as her competitors tried in every day possible way to hinder her. Wonderful.

May 29, 1953: Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first reach the summit of Mount Everest, and Coronation Day for a new Queen, Elizabeth II.

From Publishers Weekly More than 29,000 feet above sea level amid the desolation and frost of the Himalayas looms the sublime summit of Mount Everest, the very top of the world. Special correspondent for the London Times and an eyewitness to the climb, Morris (then James Morris) recounts Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay's famous ascent of the mountain. The first climb ever to reach the top of Everest culminated on May 29, 1953, two days before the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II--a truly royal gift for the young monarch. The quest begins in isolated Katmandu and trudges steadily eastward across the valley to the foot of Everest and upward to its pinnacle. First published in England in 1958, Morris's narrative is at times guilty of a certain sentimentalism redolent of postwar, postcolonial Britain; nevertheless it transcends its era. In vivid language and sharp detail, Morris describes the events and individuals of the historical trek. Her insightful and lively reflections on local customs and food, fauna and flora are interspersed with quiet musing on the Sherpa people and her own curiosity about the mythical Abominable Snowman. Occasionally sullied by the more down-to-earth concern over competing, news-pilfering reporters--hell-bent on snatching the story from right under her nose--Morris's ruminations oscillate between terror and beauty, ultimately surpassing laconic reporting to achieve virtuosity. At first, the author speculates as to why anyone would attempt such a formidable exploit, but her skepticism gives way to hope, and the endeavor, ostensibly that of a few adventurous souls, becomes that of all of humanity. (Apr.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Morris's 1958 account of Hillary and Tenzing's historic climb to the top of Mt. Everest was based on firsthand information provided by the climbers, whom Morris (back when she went under the name James) met at their camp at 20,000 feet as a reporter for the London Times. The Hillary expedition has experienced a resurgence of interest of late, so this should do well. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. 'Morris scooped the world'. Guardian