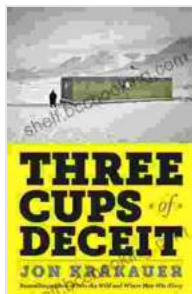


Three Cups of Deceit: The Untold Story Behind Jon Krakauer's Bestseller

Jon Krakauer's 2003 bestseller, *Three Cups of Tea*, tells the story of Greg Mortenson, a former Green Beret who founded the Central Asia Institute (CAI), a non-profit organization that builds schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The book was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to raise millions of dollars for CAI. However, in recent years, allegations have surfaced that Mortenson and CAI have engaged in fraud, waste, and mismanagement.



Three Cups of Deceit by Jon Krakauer

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 4379 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 127 pages



The most serious allegations against Mortenson involve his claims about the number of schools that CAI has built. In 2011, *60 Minutes* reported that CAI had claimed to have built 171 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, but that only 55 of those schools were actually operational. CAI has since admitted that it overstated the number of schools it has built, but it claims

that the discrepancy is due to different definitions of what constitutes a school.

Other allegations against Mortenson include:

- That he exaggerated his own role in the founding of CAI.
- That he used CAI funds to pay for personal expenses.
- That he misled donors about the way their money was being used.

In 2015, the Montana Attorney General's Office launched an investigation into CAI. The investigation is ongoing, but it has already uncovered evidence of financial mismanagement and fraud. In 2016, CAI was Forced to pay \$1.1 million to the state of Montana for violating state fundraising laws.

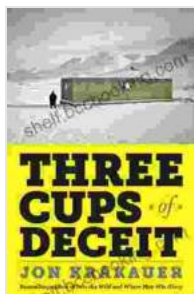
The allegations against Mortenson and CAI have cast a shadow over Krakauer's book. Critics have accused Krakauer of ignoring or downplaying the allegations in *Free Download* to tell a more inspiring story. Krakauer has defended his book, saying that he believes Mortenson's story is essentially true. However, he has also acknowledged that he made some mistakes in his research, and he has apologized for any errors in the book.

The controversy over *Three Cups of Tea* has raised important questions about the role of journalism in telling stories about non-profit organizations. It is clear that Krakauer did not do enough to verify Mortenson's claims, and he should have been more skeptical of the information that he was given. However, it is also important to remember that Mortenson is a complex figure, and it is possible that he genuinely believed that he was doing good work. The truth about Mortenson and CAI may never be fully known, but

the controversy over *Three Cups of Tea* is a reminder that we should always be skeptical of stories that seem too good to be true.

Further Reading

- Jon Krakauer's 'Three Cups of Tea' Under Fire
- The Story Behind the Scathing '60 Minutes' Report on Jon Krakauer's 'Three Cups of Tea'
- Three Cups of Deceit
- Three Cups of Deceit: The Untold Story Behind Jon Krakauer's 'Three Cups of Tea'



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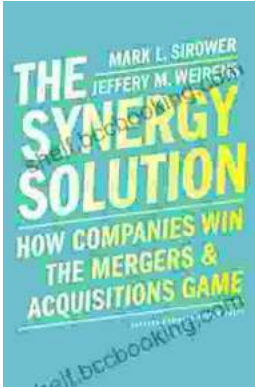
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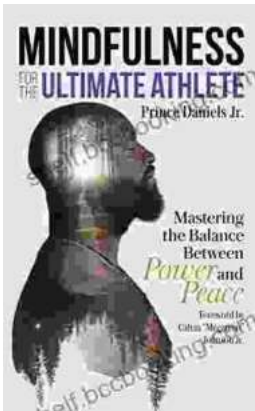
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