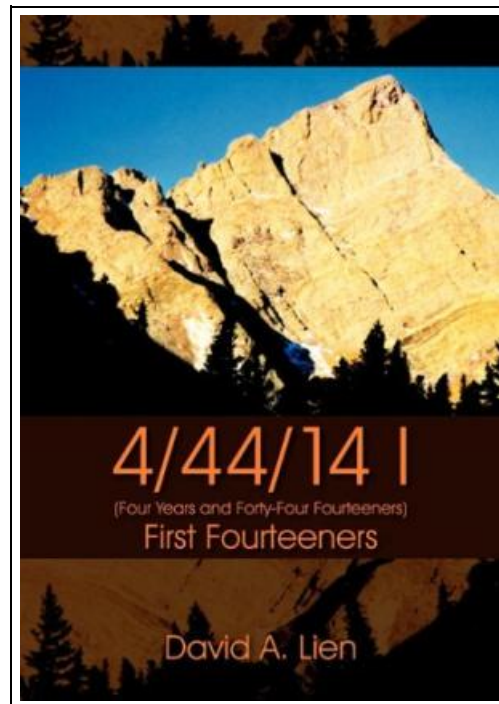


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Outskirts Press, United States, 2010. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.4/44/14 I: Four Years and Forty-Four Fourteeners I On August 14, 1999, David Lien climbed his first fourteener (peak over 14,000 feet) in Colorado's rugged Rocky Mountains. Long's Peak (14,259 ft.) in Rocky Mountain National Park is the monarch of northern Colorado: the highest peak in the park and the northernmost fourteener in Colorado and the Rocky Mountains. During that fateful day, David also experienced his first climbing fatality, and watched as a helicopter recovered the fallen climber's body from its resting place on a ledge 400 feet below. This startling tragedy impressed upon him the potential dangers of the path he was about to follow, and four years later (during August 2003) he summited his 54th Colorado fourteener. Lien's fourteener quest began as an attempt to climb forty-four fourteeners in four years (4/44/14), which led to climbing all 54 fourteeners and, eventually, the highest points in each of the 50 states and six of the Seven Summits (the highest point on each continent). Then, during May 2006, David tackled the world's tallest peak, Mount Everest. Eleven climbers died on the mountain that year (the second highest-ever Everest death total), including two of his fellow expedition members. David made the difficult decision to turn back at over 25,000 ft. during the team's summit push, a decision that (in retrospect) saved his life. To Lien—a former Air Force officer and lifelong hunter-conservationist who's traveled in 28 countries—this climbing/mountaineering quest wasn't just about the summits. To many (maybe most) climbers summits are an end, but to David they're a means to an end: experiencing the wider, wilder (the real) world, and then using those experiences to...



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