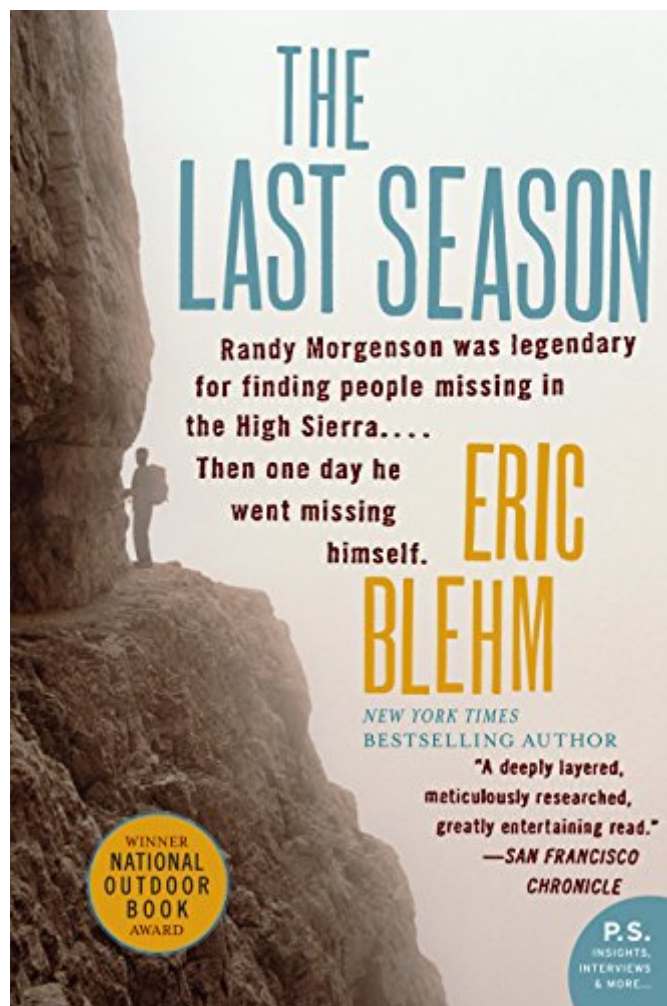


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The Last Season (P.S.)



Synopsis

Destined to become a classic of adventure literature, *The Last Season* examines the extraordinary life of legendary backcountry ranger Randy Morgenson and his mysterious disappearance in California's unforgiving Sierra Nevada—mountains as perilous as they are beautiful. Eric Blehm's masterful work is a gripping detective story interwoven with the riveting biography of a complicated, original, and wholly fascinating man.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Blehm is a great writer, you can see the journalistic skills at work in the level of detail he puts into this story. I wish all such writers took the time to do such thorough research and present all facets of the subject. Ranger Randy was really brought to life, from his interesting childhood growing up in Yosemite, with a nature focused father, who was friends with Muir and others. This carried through to Randy's 28 years as a seasonal Ranger at SEKI, his college years, time in the Peace Corps, climbing in the Himalayas, through decades of marriage. Through the mystery of Randy's

disappearance Blehm leaves the reader to judge (or not) the flaws and consequences of this interesting man; one who certainly gave more to the Parks and those who visited than he received, though he himself may have disputed that.

"The Last Season" is the story (really a mystery) of a National Park Ranger Randy Morgenson, who disappeared while patrolling in the back country of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National parks. There are plenty of reviews now available, so one can get an idea about Randy and the book about his vanishing. I'll just add another 5 star review, as the book was enthralling. I took it everywhere with me because I could hardly put it down. Highly recommended! If you love or even like the great outdoors, especially the mountains, this is the book for you. Part travel book, part meditation, part mystery, "The Last Season" delivers on all counts. I'm sure I read it again, even knowing how it all turns out. Get this book! July 2014 update: I still have fond memories of reading this book. I judge other books against how much I liked this one.

Having worked for the National Park Service, I approach any book about the NPS and its people with skepticism. If you're like me, jump into this book without trepidation! It presents a very accurate view of what it's like to work for the NPS and how relationships develop and disintegrate. The basic story is tragic and often left me thinking, "If only...." The ending is not a surprise, but more of a closure.

It is an excellent story that gives a reader not only some beautiful descriptions of some beautiful country in our nation, it also gives us some insight of the history of a park ranger and the large areas that they may be responsible for. It also gives us the political problems that a large organization has to try and keep their equipment updated. The trials of a Search and Rescue operation are very evident in this book. It reveals how even today with all of the dead communications spots in our country, even the best individuals can end up in a very serious situation and not be found until it is too late. I rate this book at the highest level. Bob

I couldn't put this book down. Thank you for weaving this gripping story, and introducing me to Randy and his life.

Very well written and researched. It makes me want to hike the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Great book. I couldn't put it down. Finished it while hiking the High Sierra Trail, which made it even more real. I grew up spending my summers in Cedar Grove with my family while my dad was a front country ranger. I didn't know Randy but knew a number of rangers who did. The book gave me even more appreciation for the rangers out there and the high sierras.

An incredible book that works on so many levels. Randy Morgenson is the best of the best - an experienced back country ranger who patrols some of the most remote and deceptively dangerous country in America. His sudden and unexplained disappearance triggers a massive search-and-rescue effort that is as compelling as any thriller. But *The Last Season* is more than a real-life mystery. Pulling from Morgenson's own logbooks, author Eric Blehm also shares Randy's evocative views on nature and man's relationship with the natural world. *The Last Season* is also about human relationships - love gained and lost - and, if you are a Human Resources manager, a sharp lesson about what motivates people to work in some of the world's most dangerous professions. And for the disaster geek in me, there's even a bit of Incident Command. Unlike many real-life mystery books that end with more questions than answers, *The Last Season* offers a compelling (through sad) answer to "What happened to Randy Morgenson?" More importantly, the book demonstrates why Randy's life was so much more important than the circumstances of his death.

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