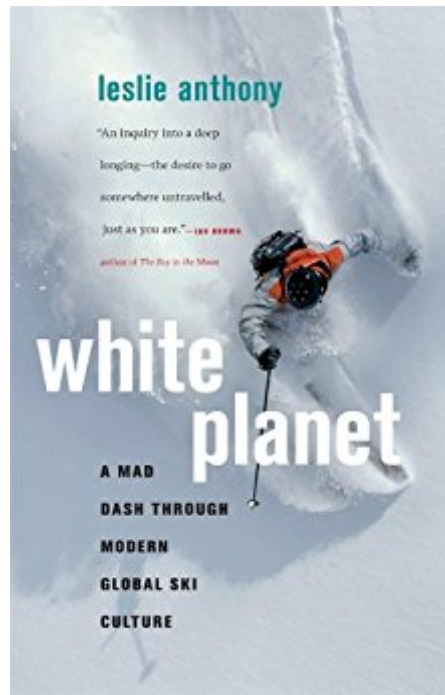




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White Planet: A Mad Dash Through Modern Global Ski Culture



Synopsis

Writer and adventurer Leslie Anthony has spent his life on two planks, racing down hills, searching for the next perfect ride. His real baptism, however, began in the early nineties when Alaska emerged as the ski world's Next Big Thing. Steep faces and vast tracks of powder snow, were captured on film and beamed to audiences around the world. The result was a freeskiing revolution. With insight and humor, *White Planet*, traces an arc through the new ski culture, in a rock & roll adventure that follows a diaspora to far-flung corners of the globe. Along the way, Anthony introduces many of the daredevils, visionaries and entrepreneurs who are bringing the sport to such unexpected places as Mexico, China, Lebanon and India.

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Customer Reviews

You needn't love skiing to love this book. The sport's fascinating and somewhat clandestine subculture warrants a tour whether or not you've ever slid down a mountain on two planks. And there's no guide more authentic, articulate or entertaining than author Leslie Anthony. He takes readers on a two-decade, multi-continent journey to skiing's far flung outposts, while unveiling its

most pivotal characters, unbelievable stories and exciting revolutions. - Tess Weaver, Powder Magazine Correspondent

Leslie Anthony does a nice job of describing the arc of ski culture from it's humble beginnings to the global enterprise it is today. While not an exhaustive history, he does a fine job of taking the reader from it's roots in Europe to the many far-flung corners of the globe. Along the way, he recounts his personal experiences with a light touch, never making himself the central character in the tale. Most importantly, there are enough vivid descriptions of actual skiing to serve up what most readers are looking for, I suspect, which is a chance to live vicariously through the adventures of a veteran ski writer. The destinations described in *White Planet* are not the ones you might expect. While some of the action is set in expected locales like BC, Austria, and Switzerland, the author introduces us to unexpected ski cultures. Beginning with one of his early personal adventures on a volcano in Mexico, he leads us to places from Newfoundland to Lebanon, Japan to Kashmir. Along this meandering route, he provides fascinating insights to the evolution of the industry.

This book helped save me from the horrible comedown that comes from returning home from travel. It also helped inspire me on my further plans to travel to the furthest peaks of the world and explore how far I can push myself. Whether you are a learner, or an advanced skier chasing that next powder line when you can get away, the seasonaire living each day in the mountain or the dreamer hoping for these, or the wider adventure beyond the bounds of the resort - you will find something in this book. Hell, even if you are a historian looking for some succinct facts about the origination of the different disciplines within skiing there is something here for you too. A well written, well experienced life story of a ski bum and an adventurer. Pick it up, you won't be disappointed.

As a skier I loved this book. Every person that does ski or is even thinking about the sport should add this to their library. Les Anthony blasts through the single minded resort only aspect of skiing and brings to light a fantastic story of skiing outside the box. I mean who knew about skiing in Lebanon or countless other places I never heard of? His writing style is a wonderful blend of information, high jinx and gonzo (a la Hunter S. Thompson). Travel the world through this book and see skiing in a whole new refreshing light.

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