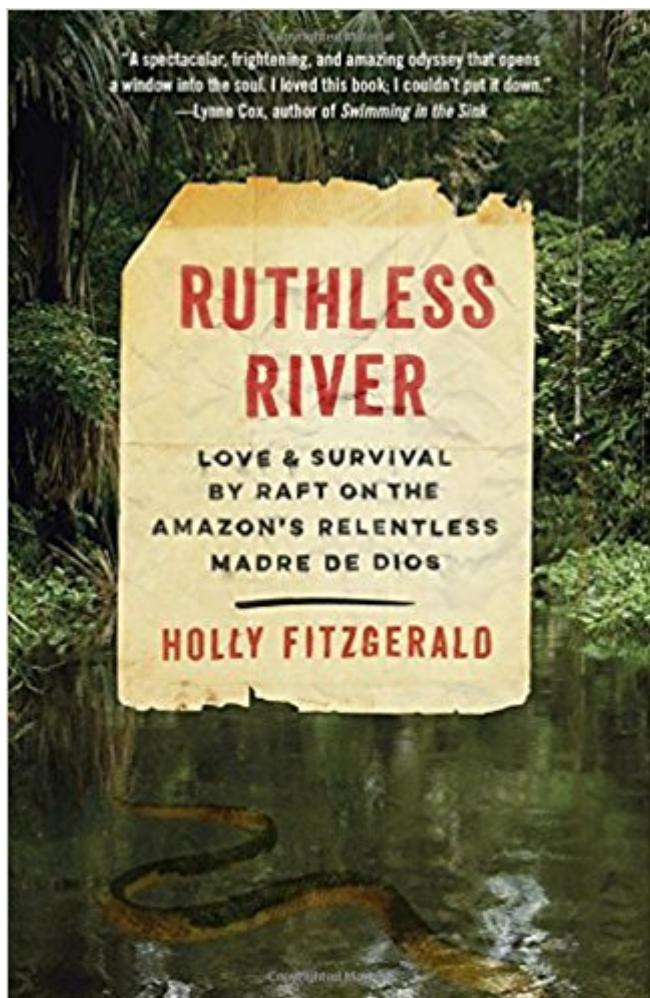


The book was found

# Ruthless River: Love And Survival By Raft On The 's Relentless Madre De Dios (Vintage Departures)



## Synopsis

A stunning debut; a Departures original publication. The ultimate survival story; a wild rideâ "the wildestâ "down a South American river in the thick of the Basin; a true and thrilling adventure of a young married couple who survive a plane crash only to later raft hundreds of miles across Peru and Bolivia, ending up in a channel to nowhere, a dead end so flooded there is literally no land to stand on. Their raftâ "a mere four logsâ "separates them from the piranha-and-caiman-infested water until they finally realize that there is no way out but to swim. Vintage Original. Holly FitzGerald and her husband, Fitzâ "married less than two yearsâ "set out on a yearlong honeymoon adventure of a lifetime, backpacking around the world. Five months into the trip their plane crash lands in Peru at a penal colony walled in by jungle, and their blissfully romantic journey turns into a terrifying nonstop labyrinth of escape and survival. On a small, soon-ravaged raft that quickly becomes their entire universe through dangerous waters alive with deadly animals and fish, their only choice: to continue on, despite the rush of insects swarming them by day, the sounds of encroaching predators at night. Without food or means of communication, with no one to hear their cries for help or on a search-and-rescue expedition to find them, the author and her husband make their way, fighting to conquer starvation and navigate the brute force of the river, their only hope for survival, in spite of hunger and weakening resolve, to somehow, miraculously hang on and find their way east to a large riverside town, before it is too late. . . .

## Book Information

Series: Vintage Departures

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Vintage; First Edition edition (May 30, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0525432779

ISBN-13: 978-0525432777

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.7 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 65 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #51,627 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 inÂ Books > Travel > South America > Peru #71 inÂ Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Travel #185 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Adventure

## Customer Reviews

Admiration for Holly FitzGeraldâ™s *RUTHLESS RIVER* âœlf you built a survival-adventure book in a laboratory, youâ™d end up withâœ Ruthless River . . . A completely unexpected real-life thriller. âœJon Foro, *Omnivoracious* (Best Biographies & Memoirs of June) âœAdventurous.âœ Outside Magazine (The Best New Survival Books) âœA harrowing survival saga . . . In vivid, absorbing prose, FitzGerald unspools a story that moves from optimism, energy, and a thrilled sense of adventure to abject fear and near starvation.âœ • âœNina MacLaughlin, *The Boston Globe* âœBoth travel memoir and shocking adventure story, like a real-life *Survivor* or *Naked and Afraid* . . . A powerful story about survival, love, and faith in the face of impossible odds . . . âœUnputdownable . . . absolutely fascinating.âœ • âœKatie Lawrence, *Library Journal* âœVivid and consistently compelling . . . An absorbing tale of survival, love, and the generosity of people who helped save their lives.âœ • âœKirkus Reviewsâœ A detailed, high-stakes debut memoir . . . FitzGerald weaves in the stories from their past with palpable, evocative details of their daily struggles with starvation, strong currents, and despair, all while the coupleâ™s love, self-knowledge, and faith deepen . . . Recommended for fans of survival narratives, coming-of-maturity stories, and travelogues from off the beaten path.âœ • âœLouisa Whitfield-Smith, *Booklist* âœAdventure, romance, danger, salvationâœ all in a story thatâ™s beautifully told and, incredibly, really happened. Pick up *Ruthless River*, but be careful. You might find it hard to put down. This is one of those memoirs you wonâ™t soon forget.âœ • âœDamon DiMarco, author of *Tower Stories: An Oral History of 9/11* âœThere are lots of adventure stories out there, lots of romances, lots of spiritual memoirs, but I know of no other book that combines all three genres with such grace and beauty. *Ruthless River* is thrillingâœ edge-of-your-seat, hold-your-breath thrillingâœ but itâ™s so much more than that. Itâ™s a meditation on how we find meaning and the strength to survive in an impossible circumstance, and one of the most tender love stories youâ™ll ever read. I love this book.âœ • âœKerry Egan, author of *On Living* âœThe best real-life survival tale since Cheryl Strayedâ™s *Wild* . . . A jaw-dropper of a memoir . . . A mind-blower of a debut . . . A survival tale so extreme, so insane, so bizarre, that Hollywood couldnâ™t make it up. Itâ™s stranger than fiction.âœ • âœLauren Daley, *South Coast Today* âœA spectacular, frightening, and amazing odyssey that opens a window into the soul. I loved this book; I couldnâ™t put it down.âœ • âœLynne Cox, author of *Swimming in the Sink* âœOne of the great survival tales. An almost unbearable story told with a physical and emotional intensity that draws the reader in, not just as witness, but as virtual participant. Itâ™s an exhausting, painful, inspiring read.âœ • âœMichael Palin, author of *Traveling to Work*

HOLLY FITZGERALD was born in Seattle, Washington, and grew up in New Haven, Connecticut.

She graduated from Lake Erie College and received a master's degree in counseling from Suffolk University. FitzGerald worked as a counselor with children and adults for many years before teaching and counseling at Bristol Community College, New Bedford, Massachusetts. She lives in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

Really interesting page turner, don't read a lot of romance books but, this one is good adventure sort of like "The African Queen ". Worth reading you will finish in a couple nights

Great book with exciting, amazing story!

aA great story of courage and survival. A good read.

Absolutely fascinating. Excellent writing.

I couldn't put this read down until it was finished, well written, easy to follow, quite an adventure never to be forgotten

Well written story! Really makes you feel like you are right with them on the river. Highly recommend!

Well written. Amazing survival story. A real page turner.

I'm a big fan of survival and nature adventure stories, and even better when they are true(!), so this grabbed my attention right away. Holly FitzGerald and her husband set off on the adventure of their dreams for a late honeymoon, a year into their marriage. While exploring South America on an extended trip, they planned to cross the continent by boating down the Madre de Dios River, through the jungle, and eventually presumably through the River to the East coast. After some daunting setbacks that might have derailed their optimism, including their plane crash landing near a Peruvian penal colony, and finding out that the boat ride that they thought existed, really didn't they forged ahead on a path that grossly miscalculated the dangers ahead. Filled with youth, love, and a spirit of adventure, they naively accepted advice about the simplicity of rafting down the Madre de Dios without a guide, map, adequate supplies, or much knowledge of the rainy season river conditions. The harrowing story of what went wrong next and how they survived,

kept me racing through chapters as if my survival was bound up with theirs. The enchanting descriptions of a vast, untamed wilderness with all its exotic beauty and thrills, along with the fierce forces of nature and frightening array of deadly creatures and howls, filled the story with an awesome sense of the majesty of the . The tenderness, humor, and pathos of Fitz and HollyÃ¢Â™s relationship, perseverance, and undying hope, delights the reader with a compelling and simple story of humanity. And the warm kindness of the local peoples that they meet throughout the story give a charming glimpse of the generosity of their culture and the humor of navigating foreign customs and foods. The story of their survival is incredible, and I donÃ¢Â™t want to give away any details, but by the time they are rescued, I was so emotionally bound up with the story that I felt the sheer mixture of joy, fear, and finally overwhelming gratitude they experienced, at being saved. There are so many other fascinating dimensions to the story; but suffice it to say that I tore through the book in 3 days (2 which were very busy days, I might add) and I found the story compelling, humorous, suspenseful, and also a great adventure in itself. I only wish there were a bigger map in the bookÃ¢Â”but I found the spot fairly easily on Google Maps satellite imageryÃ¢Â”and itÃ¢Â™s truly amazing how isolated they were and how slim the chances of rescue were in the vastness of the wilderness. A great read, an inspiration, and a good reflection on the simple goodness of life and love!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Ruthless River: Love and Survival by Raft on the 's Relentless Madre de Dios (Vintage Departures)  
Ruthless River: Love and Survival by Raft on the 's Relentless Madre de Dios Amigo de Dios: Un libro ilustrado para niÃ±os que desean estar mÃ¡s cerca de Dios (Spanish Edition)  
Survival: Survival Guide: Survival Skills, Survival Tools, & Survival Tactics. Emergency Prepping, & Surviving A Disaster! (First Aid, Survival Skills, Emergency ... Medicine, Bushcraft, Home Defense Book 1)  
Goodbye to a River: A Narrative (Vintage Departures) The Tiger: A True Story of Vengeance and Survival (Vintage Departures)  
Orchid Fever: A Horticultural Tale of Love, Lust, and Lunacy (Vintage Departures)  
CANOEING The Jersey Pine Barrens: Paddling adventures along the Batsto River, Toms River, Rancocas Creek, Great Egg Harbor River, Mullica River Western Whitewater from the Rockies to the Pacific: A River Guide for Raft, Kayak, and Canoe Extreme: Three Ordinary Guys, One Rubber Raft and the Most Dangerous River on Earth We Drifted Into The : a homemade bamboo raft down the mighty River, unsupported Vintage Fashion from the Mid-1920s: Vintage Women Adult Coloring Book #14 (Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Books) (Volume 14)  
Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Book #2: Vintage Fashion from the Edwardian Era (Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Books) (Volume 2)  
Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Book #7: Vintage Fashion Layouts from

the Early 1920s (Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Books) (Volume 7) Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Book #3: Vintage Fashion from the Early 1920s (Vintage Women: Adult Coloring Books) (Volume 3) The Ultimate Survival Guide for Beginners: The Best Tactics And Tips To Survive Urban And Wilderness Disasters (Survival Guide, Survival for Beginners, Survival books) SURVIVAL: Survival Pantry: A Prepperâ™s Guide to Storing Food and Water (Survival Pantry, Canning and Preserving, Prepper's Pantry, Canning, Prepping for Survival) Bayou Farewell: The Rich Life and Tragic Death of Louisiana's Cajun Coast (Vintage Departures) Tokyo Underworld: The Fast Times and Hard Life of an American Gangster in Japan (Vintage Departures) Surrender or Starve: Travels in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, and Eritrea (Vintage Departures)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)