

# First Winter Ascent of Mount McKinley: Anniversary Edition Legends and Lore

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The first winter ascent of Mount McKinley was a legendary feat that took place in 1961. The expedition was led by Pete Schoening and included climbers Dave Johnston, Barry Prather, and Tom Hornbein. The climbers faced extreme weather conditions, including temperatures of -60 degrees Fahrenheit and winds of up to 100 miles per hour. Despite the harsh conditions, the team reached the summit of Mount McKinley on February 11, 1961. The first winter ascent of Mount McKinley was a major milestone in mountaineering history and remains one of the most challenging climbs in the world.



## Minus 148 Degrees: First Winter Ascent of Mount McKinley, Anniversary Edition (Legends and Lore)

by Art Davidson

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 7419 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 242 pages  
Lending : Enabled



**The Climbers:**

The team that made the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley was made up of some of the most experienced climbers of the time. Pete Schoening was a legendary mountaineer who had made many first ascents, including the first ascent of the west face of Mount McKinley in 1947. Dave Johnston was a strong climber who had also made several first ascents, including the first ascent of the north face of Mount Robson in 1954. Barry Prather was a skilled skier and climber who had made several ascents of Mount McKinley. Tom Hornbein was a young climber who was relatively new to the team, but he quickly proved himself to be a valuable asset.

### **The Expedition:**

The expedition began in January 1961, when the team flew to Talkeetna, Alaska. From there, they traveled to the Kahiltna Glacier, where they began their ascent of Mount McKinley. The team faced extreme weather conditions from the start, with high winds and low temperatures. The climbers also had to deal with avalanches and crevasses. Despite the challenges, the team made steady progress up the mountain. On February 11, 1961, the team reached the summit of Mount McKinley. The climbers were exhausted, but they were also elated to have completed the first winter ascent of the highest peak in North America.

### **The Legacy:**

The first winter ascent of Mount McKinley was a major milestone in mountaineering history. The expedition showed that it was possible to climb the highest peak in North America in winter, even in the face of extreme weather conditions. The ascent also inspired a new generation of climbers to push the limits of what was possible in mountaineering. The legacy of

the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley continues to inspire climbers today.

## Legends and Lore:

The first winter ascent of Mount McKinley has been the subject of many legends and stories over the years. One of the most famous stories is about a mysterious climber who appeared to help the team during their ascent. The climber, who was never identified, is said to have appeared at critical moments, providing guidance and support to the team. Some believe that the climber was a guardian spirit, while others believe that it was simply a product of the team's collective imagination. Whatever the truth may be, the story of the mysterious climber adds to the legend of the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley.

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The first winter ascent of Mount McKinley was a legendary feat that took place in 1961. The expedition was a major milestone in mountaineering history and continues to inspire climbers today. The legacy of the expedition is one of courage, determination, and teamwork. The climbers who made the first winter ascent of Mount McKinley are true legends of the sport, and their story is one that will be told for generations to come.



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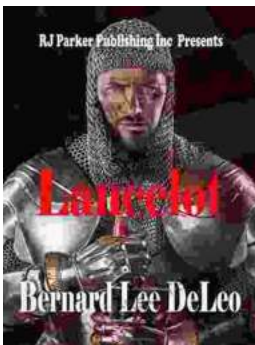
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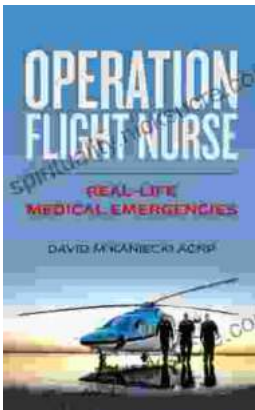
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