

**Critical Acclaim greets**  
*A Night on the Ground, A Day in the Open*

“An unqualified success, a memoir that's both excellent history and perhaps the most compelling portrait ever assembled of the American climbing spirit in the last 25 years. ...The essays here deftly capture glimpses of a golden age, and the best have the lapidary quality of a fine poem—concentrated and dazzling.”

— *Rock & Ice* magazine

“It was by the campfire that the beauty of Robinson's words hit home. He welcomes the reader into his world and shares it with fine prose and Haiku images. He doesn't reach to tell a story, it comes naturally from his heart, in an unstrained, mystical way. I thank him for capturing that wonderful old mountain life feeling.”

— Bob Woodward, co-founder of *SNEWS*, the insiders' newsletter for the outdoor industry

“Mountain climbing begets art. Like baseball and bullfighting, it has nurtured a whole body of literature. Robinson is one of climbing's leading practitioners. There is some jargon here...but Robinson's passion, humor and sometimes lyrical descriptive powers make these stories compelling to non-climbers.

...The climbing life is as foreign to me as elephant taming. It was a treat to be shown through its inner and outer landscapes by an expert guide.”

— *Los Angeles Times*

“No one writes about the mountain experience quite like Doug Robinson does. Lyrical, visionary (to use one of his favorite words), casual, poetic, elegant, unpretentious, mystical. Here, the quintessential Alpine vagabond sketches the delights of sublime indolence.”

— Allen Steck, *American Alpine Journal*

“[Doug] more than anyone else is carrying on Muir's great tradition of mountaineering writing.”

— Yvon Chouinard, founder of Patagonia, Inc., climber, environmentalist, author

“Doug Robinson is John Muir meets Jack Kerouac, a nineteenth century mountain man on a twentieth century journey, a seeker, a visionary...He is that rare treasure: a mountain man who can write, and he writes like a poet. His writing is filled with passion, pain and profound insight.”

— William Broyles, Jr., screenwriter (*Planet of the Apes*, *Cast Away*, *Apollo 13* and others)

“Ah, the modern John Muir!” said Steve Roper, the historian of Yosemite climbing, when I mentioned that I was going to review Doug Robinson's collected essays. Like Muir, Robinson built a way of living 'out there' year round, characteristically on the east side of the Sierra, wintering in a cabin and skiing the Sierra crest, then teaching climbing in the

Palisades each summer...where he was resident philosopher and poet, working at distilling the essence of climbing, its essential joyous spirit. His writing has had a profound effect on more than just his own generation. I suspect that future generations will still be pondering upon Doug Robinson's theories of the source of the heightened perception that comes from mountaineering.

This gem of a book from the modern John Muir is a lyrical articulation of what has 'come boiling up' in a lifetime of writing from a committed hedonist in what 'then was a lifestyle, a Zen; now is perilously close to sport.'"

— Terry Gifford, *The Alpine Journal*, England

"Belated thanks for your absolutely delightful and beautiful-to-look-at book, *A Night on the Ground*... I have been reading it through the winter, between house chores. You and I clearly share a lot of California cultural history...another one of us west coast nutty visionary climbers."

— Gary Snyder, the Pulitzer Prize winner "poet laureate of Deep Ecology"

"What sets this memoir apart is Robinson's gracious way of going. The book is blessedly free from self-absorption, almost a trademark of mountaineering books. Instead of struggle and conquest, Robinson recalls the specific joys of being alone, and with good friends, in the high places of earth."

— C.L. Rawlins, *High Country News*, and author of *Sky's Witness*

"Doug Robinson's well-crafted collection of essays offers a unique personal vision of the American climbing scene and many of its players (including himself) over a period of decades. Doug is a deft writer, speaking from the heart in graceful prose that captures the human side of our sometimes hard-hearted sport. Doug is an artist in prose as well as among the peaks."

— Royal Robbins, leader of the Golden Age of Yosemite climbing, entrepreneur, author

"Reading world-class mountaineer *cum* poet/author Doug Robinson's stories and essays in *Outside*, *Summit*, *Climbing* and other magazines over the years has always been a treat for most adventurers—armchair or otherwise. Now, thankfully, we can disregard the piecemeal approach and feast on a full platter of mountaineering literature—an artful culmination of 30 years of 'wringing light out of stone.'"

— Editor's pick, Outdoor Retailer Summer Market 1998

"Doug...ah...I hated your book, but I bought it anyway.  
...Would you please sign it?"

— Warren Harding, Yosemite legend, first ascent of El Capitan