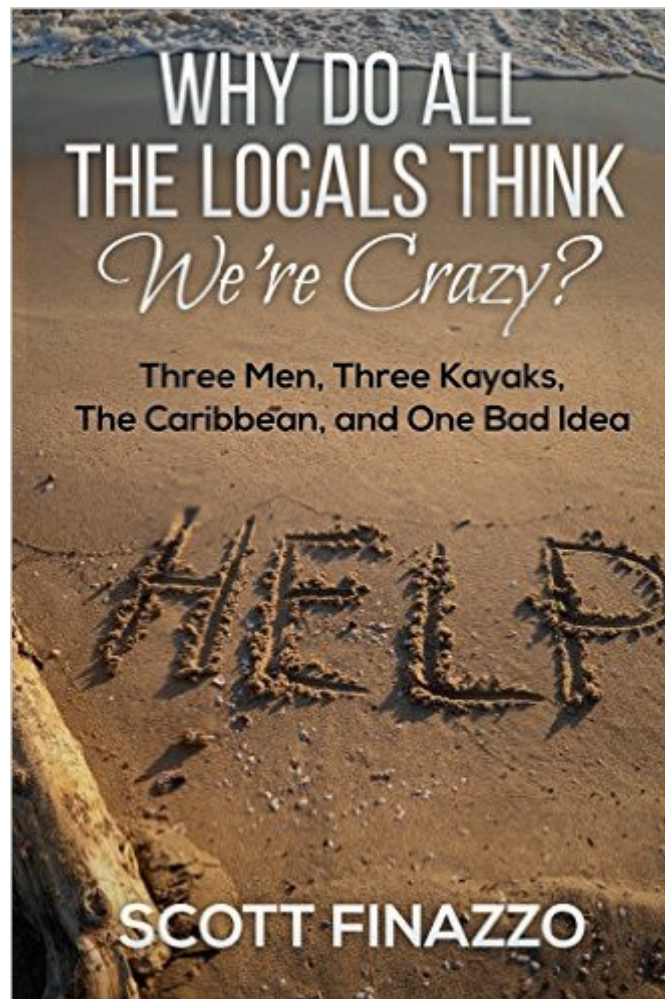


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Why Do All The Locals Think We're Crazy?: Three Men, Three Kayaks, The Caribbean, And One Bad Idea



Synopsis

Do you ever get the feeling that you are stuck in a rut? Routine can sneak up and take over your life without warning or apology. Thoughts of breaking out and escaping for a while become a distraction. Doing something fun and crazy begins to engulf your daydreams. Most of those thoughts are dismissed and cast aside as quickly as they arrived. But what if, just one time, you hold on to it? You step out of your comfort zone and go after that dream. It could turn out to be a failure or it could be legendary, but you'll never know until you try. That is how it began for Scott Finazzo. *Why Do All the Locals Think We're Crazy?* is the true story of three firemen from the Midwest who decided to break out of their mid-life routine and take their mischievous humor and their inability to back down from a challenge to new limits. Their kindred love for tropical locations, along with an insuppressible desire to be anywhere but Kansas, led them to extend their reach beyond the borders of the continental United States. They, with a combined total of zero boat building experience, constructed their own kayaks. Then they, with a combined total of zero sea kayaking experience, planned to spend a week paddling among the picturesque U.S. and British Virgin Islands. From day one twists, turns, setbacks, and obstacles hindered any romantic notions of a cinematic triumph over the confines of mundane suburbia and personal limitations. Yet, they took the trip, risked their reputations and lives, and managed to avoid becoming a pointless maritime tragedy. Through perseverance, humor, and rum they conquered the literal and metaphorical mountains they encountered: personal conflict, delays of every kind, kayak failure, separation, a night alone on an uninhabited island, and a rescue by a yacht chartered by drunken Dutch airline pilots. *Why Do All the Locals Think We're Crazy?* chronicles the entire journey from idea inception through their return to the mainland. It combines adventure and humor with sprinkled in dime store philosophy that will leave you captivated, laughing, and glad to be on dry land.

Book Information

Paperback: 194 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (May 31, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1496108507

ISBN-13: 978-1496108500

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,210,197 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Adventure > Kayaking #336 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking #3533 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports

Customer Reviews

It's hard to write about the adventures of your life and make it readable. These events mean so much to us, but in re telling them, it is so easy to come off as pompous or self absorbed. Or it may be that you have a great tale, but the rest of us just can't relate to it. That's why there are so few great books in the outdoor adventure genre, though a lot of good ones. Yes, "Wild" tells a great story about personal redemption, some of which is actually set on the Pacific Crest Trail, and "Into Thin Air" revisits the classic Greek theme of hubris creating untold tragedy for the heroic, but how many adventure stories want to be that? (How many of us want that to be our story?). So, how do you write a good, readable, and entertaining adventure story if you just want to tell the best stories of your life? The best way is with a healthy dose of self deprecation, humor, an understanding of your own limitations, and apparently a lot of alcohol. Scott Finazzo has apparently mastered the genre, and this is the best adventure story I have read this year. Basically Scott is your average, ordinary Midwesterner. A firefighter, he, like his companions in this story, is reasonably fit and has spent much of his recreational life in the out of doors. Inspired by a book about ocean kayaking and what he later realizes is inordinate confidence in his own abilities and those of his companions, he sets out with absolutely no experience to build kayaks and then paddle them about the Caribbean. Amazingly enough they more or less succeed and survive their foray into life's middle age crisis, though not unscarred.

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