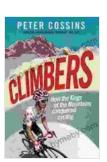
## How the Kings of the Mountains Conquered Cycling





#### **Climbers: How the Kings of the Mountains conquered**

**cycling** by Peter Cossins

★★★★★ 4.8 out of 5
Language : English
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Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 336 pages



Cycling is a sport that has always been dominated by the mountains. From the early days of the Tour de France, when riders had to push their bikes up the slopes of the Pyrenees, to the modern era, where climbers such as Chris Froome and Nairo Quintana have become household names, the mountains have played a pivotal role in the sport.

In this book, we tell the story of the greatest climbers in cycling history. We explore the challenges they faced, the sacrifices they made, and the triumphs they achieved. From Fausto Coppi to Eddy Merckx, from Miguel Indurain to Chris Froome, these are the riders who have conquered the most challenging mountains in the world.

#### **The Early Years**

The early days of cycling were dominated by riders who were all-rounders. They could sprint, time trial, and climb. But as the sport developed, riders began to specialize. Some riders became known for their sprinting ability, while others became known for their climbing skills.

One of the first great climbers in cycling history was Fausto Coppi. Coppi was a gifted all-rounder, but it was his climbing ability that set him apart from the rest. He won the Tour de France twice, the Giro d'Italia five times, and the Vuelta a España once. He also won the World Championships three times.

Coppi's success inspired a generation of climbers. In the 1950s and 1960s, riders such as Charly Gaul, Federico Bahamontes, and Eddy Merckx emerged as the dominant forces in the mountains. These riders were all capable of winning the Tour de France, and they all had their own unique climbing style.

Gaul was a small, wiry rider who was known for his ability to attack from afar. Bahamontes was a powerful rider who was known for his ability to grind up the slopes. Merckx was a complete rider who was known for his ability to win on all types of terrain.

#### The Modern Era

In the modern era, climbing has become even more important in cycling. The Tour de France, Giro d'Italia, and Vuelta a España all feature multiple mountain stages, and the riders who can climb the best are often the ones who win the race.

In recent years, riders such as Chris Froome, Nairo Quintana, and Alberto Contador have emerged as the dominant forces in the mountains. These riders are all capable of winning the Tour de France, and they all have their own unique climbing style.

Froome is a tall, powerful rider who is known for his ability to sustain a high pace on the climbs. Quintana is a small, agile rider who is known for his ability to attack from afar. Contador is a complete rider who is known for his ability to win on all types of terrain.

#### The Challenges of Climbing

Climbing is one of the most challenging aspects of cycling. It requires strength, endurance, and mental toughness. Riders must be able to push themselves to the limit, and they must be able to suffer.

The biggest challenge of climbing is the altitude. As riders climb, the air becomes thinner and there is less oxygen available. This can make it difficult to breathe, and it can lead to fatigue and dizziness.

Another challenge of climbing is the gradient. The steeper the gradient, the harder it is to climb. Some of the most challenging climbs in the world have gradients of over 20%. This means that riders must be able to generate a lot of power to climb these hills.

#### The Rewards of Climbing

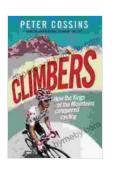
Despite the challenges, climbing can be a very rewarding experience. There is nothing quite like the feeling of reaching the top of a climb and looking back at the distance you have covered.

Climbing can also help to improve your fitness and your mental toughness. When you climb, you are pushing yourself to the limit, and you are learning to overcome adversity. This can help you to develop a stronger sense of self-belief and determination.

If you are looking for a challenge, then climbing is a great way to test yourself. It is a demanding sport, but it is also a very rewarding one.

The Kings of the Mountains are the riders who have conquered the most challenging climbs in cycling history. They are the riders who have pushed themselves to the limit and who have achieved greatness.

In this book, we have told the story of these

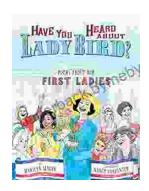


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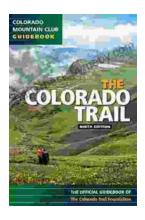
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