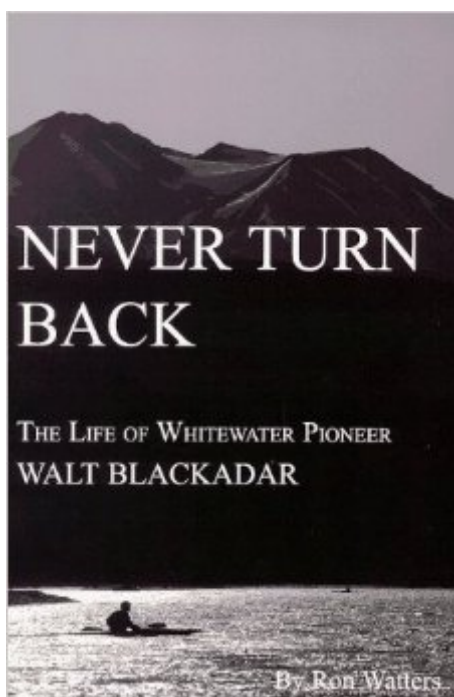


The book was found

# Never Turn Back: The Life Of Whitewater Pioneer Walt Blackadar



## Synopsis

Never Turn Back is the gripping and compelling life story of Dr. Walt Blackadar, a physician from a small town in Idaho. At the age of 49, he shocked the outdoor world when he made a solo kayak journey down the treacherous rapids of Turnback Canyon on the remote and wild Alsek River in Canada and Alaska. Blackadar's accomplishment on Turnback Canyon was the river equivalent of the first ascent of Everest, and when excerpts from his Alsek journal were published in Sports Illustrated, he became an instant sensation. He was at the top of his sport at an age when most athletes are long retired. Then suddenly, his spectacular rise veered wildly off course when a young woman tragically died on one of his kayaking expeditions. Heartbroken over her death and plagued with mounting physical problems, his kayaking technique began to deteriorate. Yet he had a spirit that was irrepressible, and pitting himself in a race against his body's clock, he sought out and faced off against the world's most formidable whitewater.

## Book Information

Paperback: 293 pages

Publisher: Great Rift Pr (April 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1877625035

ISBN-13: 978-1877625039

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #255,713 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking > Whitewater Kayaking #532 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping > Instructional #746 inÂ Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports

## Customer Reviews

In August 1971, after three days of paddling his fragile kayak through a wilderness of bears and glaciers, Walt Blackadar, a doctor from Salmon, Idaho, tackled what is arguably one of the worst stretches of white water in the world- Turnback canyon on the Alsek river. He was forty nine years old and he was alone. His solo run of Turnback canyon was one of the major breakthroughs in the history of white water kayaking and has been compared to the first ascent of Everest without oxygen. Although techniques and technologies improve, psychological barriers define what is possible. Walt's run of Turnback, no matter how exaggerated it may have been in hindsight, blew

those definitions wide open. In *Never Turn Back*, Ron Watters, himself no slouch when it comes to river running, tells the story of this impressive man. Although born in the eastern United States, Blackadar went west looking for adventure. He didn't take up white water kayaking until he was in his forties. He quickly established a reputation though his pioneering runs on the biggest white water in the states. The chapters dealing with Blackadar's solo run are the core of this book, an inspiring description of one man pitting himself willfully against the possibility of his own annihilation. Turnback made Walt a celebrity. Seven years later he was dead. Watters deals honestly with Blackadar; he comes across as a loud, brash boozy man. He also describes Walt's failures and there are some great stories along the way. Blackadar, like Mike Jones, died in 1978. Unlike Jones, Walt died in what seems a stupid accident on a Saturday morning paddle on a local river. The image of him causally trying to drawstroke his boat from under the log he was pinned against is one of the book's most haunting images.

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

*Never Turn Back: The Life of Whitewater Pioneer Walt Blackadar*  
*Walt Disney and Europe: European Influences on the Animated Feature Films of Walt Disney*  
*Dry Bones: A Walt Longmire Mystery* (Walt Longmire Mysteries Book 11)  
*Death Without Company: A Walt Longmire Mystery* (Walt Longmire Mysteries Book 2)  
*As the Crow Flies: A Walt Longmire Mystery* (Walt Longmire Mysteries)  
*Woman Of The River: Georgie White Clark, Whitewater Pioneer*  
*Northwoods Whitewater: A Paddlers Guide to Whitewater of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario and Michigan*  
*10,000 Steps: Walking for Weight Loss, Walking for Health: A Turn by Turn Roadmap* (Weight Loss Series)  
*Pioneer life; or, Thirty Years a Hunter, Being Scenes and Adventures in the Life of Philip Tome* (1854)  
*Natural Back Pain Solutions: Relieve Back Pain Fast, Heal a Herniated Disc, and Avoid Back Surgery*  
*The Life and Adventures of James P. Beckwourth: Mountaineer, Scout, and Pioneer, and Chief of the Crow Nation of Indians*  
*The Life and Adventures of James P. Beckwourth* (1856):  
*Mountaineer, Scout, and Pioneer and Chief of the Crow Nation of Indians*  
*Ten Years Younger: The Amazing Ten Week Plan to Look Better, Feel Better, and Turn Back the Clock*  
*Turn Back Your Age Clock: Look and Feel 20 Years Younger in Only 8 Weeks*  
*10 Years Younger: 21 Surprising Techniques to Turn Back Time*  
**ALZHEIMER'S TREATMENTS THAT ACTUALLY WORKED IN SMALL STUDIES! (BASED ON NEW, CUTTING-EDGE, CORRECT THEORY!) THAT WILL NEVER BE TESTED & YOU WILL NEVER HEAR ABOUT FROM YOUR MD OR BIG PHARMA !**  
*Never Fear Cancer Again: How to Prevent and Reverse Cancer* (Never Be)  
*Stop Smoking in One Hour: Play the CD... just once... and never smoke again!* (Listen Just Once to the CD and You'll Never Smoke Again!)  
*Never Feel Old Again: Aging Is a Mistake--Learn How to Avoid It* (Never Be)

Secrets The Secret Never Told You;Law of Attraction for Instant Manifestation Miracles: 5 Secrets  
Never Told on How to Use the Law of Attraction (Law of ... Instant Manifestation Miracles Book  
Book 2)

[Dmca](#)