

How I Spent a Week Dreaming of Toilets, Drinking Crappy Water, and Making Bad Decisions

Sank in the midst of a bold adventure, this is a recount of my unusual week spent in a remote village with scarce resources. This remote location lacked basic amenities, including proper sanitation facilities and quality water supply. Little did I know that this adventure would turn into a series of challenges that tested my resilience, decision-making skills, and survival instincts.

It all began when I stumbled upon an opportunity to volunteer in an underprivileged community located on the outskirts of civilization. Intrigued by the chance to make a difference, I packed my bags and embarked on a journey that would forever change my perception of the world.

A Shocking Welcome

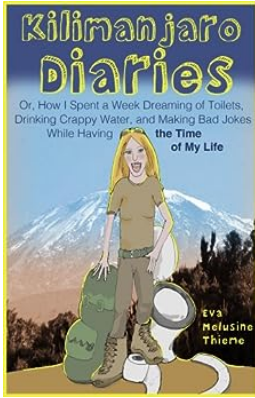
As I arrived in the village, I was immediately confronted with the stark reality of the local's day-to-day struggles. Access to clean water was limited, and the community relied on a nearby contaminated river as their primary source of hydration. The sight and smell of the muddy water were immensely disheartening, but it was only the beginning of a challenging experience that awaited me.

Kilimanjaro Diaries: Or, How I Spent a Week Dreaming of Toilets, Drinking Crappy Water, and Making Bad Jokes While Having the Time of My

Life by Eva Melusine Thieme (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 1721 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 267 pages
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Toilet Troubles

One crucial aspect missing from this community was proper sanitation facilities. The absence of functioning toilets meant that locals had to resort to primitive ways of relieving themselves. Witnessing these conditions and the struggles people faced when nature called was not only eye-opening but also raised awareness about the importance of adequate sanitation infrastructure for human dignity.

As days turned into weeks, my dreams began to revolve around the idea of building toilets for the community. The desperation I felt in my sleep fueled my determination to make a difference.

Exploring Alternatives

To tackle the water crisis, a group of fellow volunteers and I decided to implement makeshift water filters using accessible materials. We relied on our knowledge of rudimentary filtration techniques to purify the contaminated river water. The process was time-consuming and physically demanding, but it gave the community members hope for a healthier future.

Additionally, we educated the villagers about waterborne diseases and the importance of boiling water for consumption. By empowering them with knowledge, we aimed to instill a sense of self-sufficiency and enable them to take charge of their own well-being.

The Impact of Choices

During my stay, it became evident that a series of bad decisions and limited resources had led to this community's plight. Observing the consequences firsthand, I realized the importance of making informed choices. A seemingly innocuous action can have far-reaching implications, and it is our responsibility to make mindful decisions that benefit both ourselves and those around us.

A Lesson in Resilience

Living in such conditions for a week was mentally and physically draining. However, I witnessed the remarkable resilience of the community members who faced these challenges every day. Their spirit taught me the true meaning of perseverance and the ability to find joy in the smallest of things.

An Unexpected Friendship

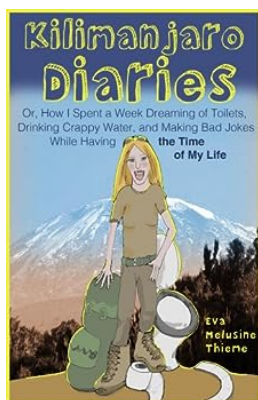
Amidst the hardships, I formed a deep connection with one of the local villagers named Rohan. We spent hours discussing their struggles and aspirations, bridging the gap created by our cultural differences. Despite our diverse backgrounds, we discovered a shared humanity that transcends boundaries and unites us all.

A Call to Action

Leaving the community was both bittersweet and inspiring. Witnessing their resilience and commitment to survival motivated me to continue advocating for adequate resources and infrastructure in marginalized communities worldwide.

Reflecting upon this week spent dreaming of toilets, drinking water unfit for consumption, and making bad decisions, I can confidently say that this journey has forever changed me. It has fueled my determination to make a positive impact and instill sustainable change for those in need.

No longer will I take the simple luxuries of clean water and sanitation for granted. I urge everyone to support initiatives that strive to improve living conditions in underprivileged areas and ensure that everyone has access to basic human needs.



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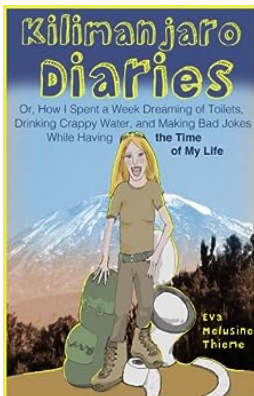
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When expat blogger and mother of four Eva Melusine Thieme first harbors the idea of ringing out her three years in Africa on the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, it sounds easy. In fact, it has all the trappings of a dream vacation: no cooking, no fighting kids, and an army of porters to lug everything up the mountain. What can go wrong?

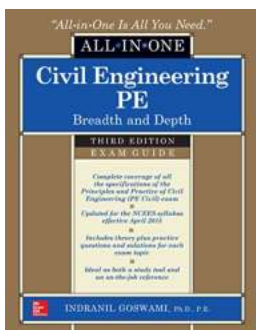
Tag along as Eva takes you on her journey up the slopes of Kilimanjaro together with her teenage son and a group of hilarious South African friends. From planning the trip to shopping for supplies to trudging uphill wishing with all her heart for an ice cold sip of water untainted by chlorination tablets, you will follow her step by step on her quest to scale the world's highest free-standing mountain. But the list of challenges is long: sub-zero temperatures, blistered feet, long drop toilets (of which, you may learn, the drops are not nearly as long as they have once been, if you get the drift), and the ever-threatening altitude sickness no one can quite escape from. Eva's climb turns into the most difficult test she has ever faced, and ultimately she must make a fateful decision on that mountain.

Thieme's debut travel memoir is equally poignant and laugh-out-loud funny. Part guide book, part travel memoir, and part history lesson, her story will keep you hooked until the last page - whether you're a seasoned hiker nodding your head in recognition, an aspiring Kilimanjaro trekker searching for tips, or an armchair traveler reveling in adventure stories from the comfort of your home.



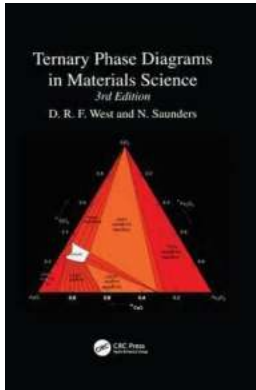
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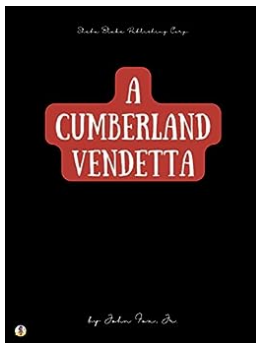
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