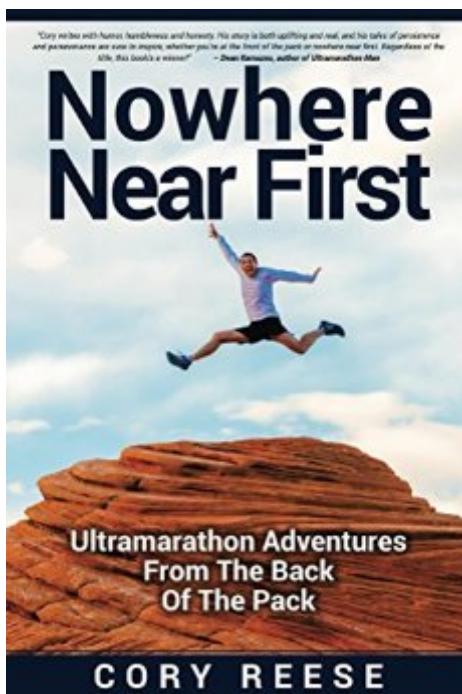


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Nowhere Near First: Ultramarathon Adventures From The Back Of The Pack



Synopsis

Long before Cory Reese strapped on his first pair of running shoes, he learned the key to being a successful ultrarunner: He knew how to suffer. In “Nowhere Near First,” Cory shares his deeply personal story about experiencing his father’s suicide at a young age, and how this led to a career in endurance running and a desire to live life to the fullest. “Nowhere Near First” is a humorous, captivating, and uplifting account of Cory’s memorable ultramarathon experiences. Not only does Cory’s entertaining and powerful writing allow readers a unique perspective into the challenges and rewards of running, but it also inspires each of us to turn tragedy into triumph. Cory writes with humor, humbleness and honesty. His story is both uplifting and real, and his tales of persistence and perseverance are sure to inspire, whether you’re at the front of the pack or nowhere near first. Regardless of the title, this book’s a winner! ~ Dean Karnazes, author of Ultramarathon Man: Confessions of an All-Night Runner

“Cory Reese’s book, Nowhere Near First, is an immensely entertaining and profoundly educational story about overcoming challenges to forge a meaningful life. Reese’s story is must-read for people looking to find meaning and purpose in modern-day society.” ~ Karl Hoagland, Publisher, UltraRunning Magazine

“Cory has penned a very personal account of overcoming hardship in his personal and athletic life. Nowhere Near First tells his story of perseverance and survival in a vivid, down and dirty way that peaks with his extraordinarily positive way of looking at life.” ~ Marshall Ulrich, author of Running On Empty: An Ultramarathoner’s Story of Love, Loss, and a Record-Setting Run Across America

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Customer Reviews

I laughed, I cried, and I was inspired! Cory's adventures make running miles on end sound fun. After reading the book, I've realized this is just an ordinary man doing extraordinary feats! I think that is why the book is so inspiring - this could be any runner with a dream. It reminded me that I don't have to base my running career on being the best, but perhaps on feeling the best - having fun and enjoying the journey. This is a very inspiring book that will leave you wondering what Cory will do next!

I absolutely loved this book! It is probably the best running memoir I have read. As a trail runner, it's easy to get discouraged reading things about and by the elites, but Cory's experience as a back of the pack runner is super relatable. This book is hilarious and inspiring. I highly recommend picking it up.

Personally, I loved this book as I think most people can relate. Being and finishing in back of the pack isn't the most horrible thing ever. Sometimes the experience is what matters most and accomplishing our own personal goals. I could read this book over and over as a personal reminder to have fun with running.

I was intrigued by this book because I know Cory personally, and have been a big fan of his amazing wit and his writing through his blog. I'm not a runner--in fact, like Cory, I get inspired to run the St. George Marathin every year as I see the sea of runners on the course every first Saturday of October. Unlike Cory, my feelings of "I want to do this" last about 30 minutes, and then I gain my sanity again. But, even as a non-runner, Cory's viewpoint of life, his great perspective, his vulnerability, genuineness, his quirky humor, and yes, the dreaded cat unitard, had me hooked from the first chapter. I learned things about my friend and neighbor I did not know. My fondness and respect have grown. This is not a book about running as much as it is a book of life lessons. It is an inspiration and well worth every moment. Bravo!

As a back of the pack runner I appreciate that Cory makes it real. He gives voice to my frustrations, demons, doubts, fears and scoldings and then lets me know it is okay. Even back there we have value and we add. Cory has a fun style about his book that makes you feel like he is talking to you while out on a run together. There is lessons in every chapter. I especially gain value from the lessons on mental training. New to trail running or an old hand, this is a fabulous read.

As a relatively new trail runner, I had stumbled upon Cory's blog when googling race reports. His blog - really, his adventures, his humor and his photos, quickly grabbed my attention and I've been a follower (and admirer from afar) for a few months. However, even if you've been an avid reader of his blog, his book is not merely a rehash of his blog (though that would still be worthwhile too, because his blog is a true gem and provides hours of inspiring entertainment). I have really enjoyed reading his book while training for my first 50k (which I just completed yesterday - yay!). Like another reviewer said, Cory's back of the pack - but incredibly admirable and impressive - achievements are more relatable and inspiring than some of the elites' stories.. Highly, highly recommend. I will be revisiting this as I train for new distances.

This is Stephens wife doing the review, but I don't have an account so I am using his. I read about as fast as I run. Slowly! But I could not put this book down and finished it in 3 days. Would have finished it faster, but I had some training miles to get in for my next ultra and then there is nap time... The book is full of sugar, inspiration, sugar, wonderful ultra people, and more sugar with some suffering while running. I loved the book, but you all must be warned! Before NNF I never thought about running a 50 miler, and now after NNF I am thinking of running a 100 miler. Ultra runners take joy in having people suffer along with them. Cory takes you down the rabbit hole and lets you sneak a peek behind the curtain into the trail running ultra world. Whether you are into running or not, I really think you would find this book entertaining and enjoy the page turner that it is.

This book and its author are amazing. I was moved to smile, cry, and swear off that same hill in Zion. I saw those bees. I have the same photo Cory does of them swarming a bush up on Gooseberry. He isn't making this stuff up, and you'd need to read it to believe it. Cory's story is well told, thoughtful and concise. He says what he means and you can hear him coming through the pages (well, I can hear his voice, because I've heard his voice). This book isn't going to stay on my shelf. I want to share it with everyone I know. Cory is a great guy with some great principals worth sharing. We're all lucky they are in a book.

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