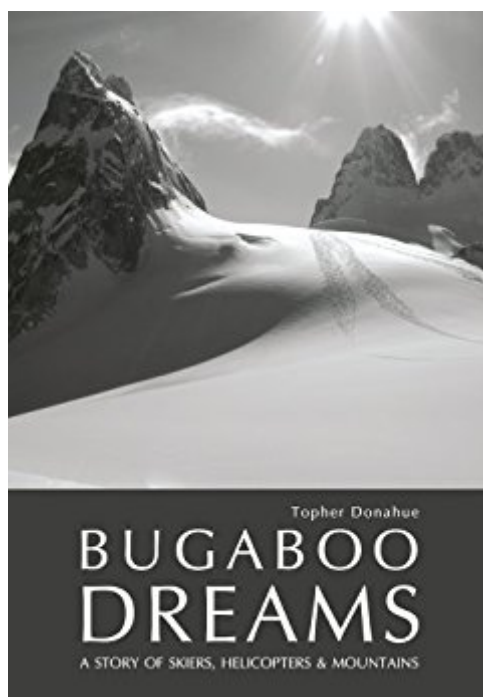


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# Bugaboo Dreams: A Story Of Skiers, Helicopters & Mountains: 1



## Synopsis

Take the snowiest mountains in Canada, add two Austrian immigrants, an army of adrenaline-addicted skiers (kings, queens, billionaires, average people and everyday ski bums) and throw a helicopter into the mix for an unforgettable story of mountain adventure. The tale begins when two childhood friends—Hans Gmoser and Leo Grillmair—leave postwar Austria and travel to Canada in search of adventure. They stumble upon employment taking skiers across the vast glaciers and through the thick forests of Western Canada. When skiers start asking the immigrant mountaineers if it would be possible to use a helicopter to reach the best high-altitude powder, the two find themselves catapulted into a project brimming with more adventure, success, tragedy and fame than they could have dreamed. Complete with archival and contemporary photos, this is the inside story of the people, thrills, accidents and innovations behind the evolution of a sport from a dangerous, ramshackle and lawless enterprise into a multi-million dollar industry offering reliable access to one of the world's most exciting forms of recreation.

## Book Information

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Memoirs > Regional Canada

## Customer Reviews

Bugaboo Dreams: A Story of Skiers, Helicopters and Mountains [Hardcover] The Ultimate Heliskiing

history "Bugaboo Dreams" is a book about the magic of heliskiing. Topher Donahue tells the story about Hans Gmoser who developed heliskiing to a passion for so many skiers. The beginning started deep in the Cascades mountains in a timberloggers cabin with a small helicopter. The long and steep slopes was covered with dry and deep powder snow. A small group of friends tried this adventures way of skiing. The use of a helicopter instead of skilifts to get up in the high mountains. The rumour of the fantastic skiing was spread between skiers and friends. Soon were the Bugaboo Lodge built and more skiers came to Canada for the best powder skiing in the world. Today are 12 operations running under the name of Canadian Mountain Holidays. A fantastic result from the visionary men who started business in the old loghouse. The author follows the development of heliskiing under four decades. The founder Hans Gmoser is described with all passion and commitment that led to this fantastic success. I skied Bugaboos in 1979. That was the best skiing experience in my life. To read about the stories of the founders and thoughts and work behind the heliskiing company made my memories come alive again. The book tells stories about what happened backstage - about the guides, the kitchen, the mountains, the helicopter pilots, about guests and a lot of small things and is illustrated with nice photos. It is a well told story about Hans Gmosers mission and about heliskiing in the Bugaboos. "Bugaboo Dreams" recommends to all skiers who are dreaming of heliskiing. Stefan Mårtberg Funäsdalen - Sweden

Perhaps, like me, you are not one of those rare few who heli-ski. Well, you can join them--in your imagination anyway. Which is just what I did on reading Topher Donahue's great narration of the ups & downs (mostly down--it is heli-skiing) of this incredible extreme activity. Personally, I cannot imagine taking on such a dangerous activity; but he actually made me think "maybe I should have." The writing is interesting, the photographs often beyond spectacular--as well they should be considering what heli-skiing is all about. It's flying to some mountain slope which no sane person has previously skied that day (sometimes "ever") then following the guide down the slope on deep powder. I have a good friend who has descended over 1 million feet with the guides Topher tells about. Reading this book was my way of getting a little bit of insight into that amazing experience.

Great story on the evolution of heliskiing...How the Vision of one man really began an entire industry..How they made it accessible to all..Fun and interesting read!!

The author comes from a long line of Colorado outdoor people. Those of you who can afford this kind of skiing will enjoy reading this book. It's rather well written.

This was an interesting and entertaining insight into the birth of heli-skiing.

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