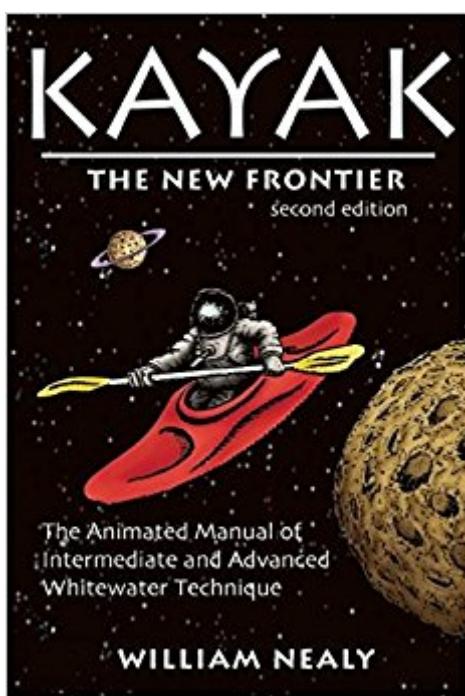


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Kayak: The New Frontier: The Animated Manual Of Intermediate And Advanced Whitewater Technique



Synopsis

Completely updated to reflect the latest in paddling equipment and kayak technology, William Nealy's illustrated kayaking manual is as practical as it is dead-on hilarious. Whether detailing hardcore hippy hairboaters or insane youngsters clattering tiny play boats down steep, rocky creeks, Nealy is back and more useful and entertaining than ever. Over 400 illustrations help Nealy break down even the most complex kayaking skills, making difficult whitewater techniques understandable. You may break a rib laughing, but with Nealy holding your hand you'll be less likely to break a bone while boofing an insane rapid (or maybe an entire waterfall).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"...Kayak: The New Frontier is destined to be a classic. Every single paddler can learn something from this book..." -- Johnny Molloy, Outdoor Writer "Nealy's work is truly one-of-a-kind..... a great gift for both experienced paddlers and newcomers alike." -- Glen Bernard, Publisher, Paddler magazine...this is a kayaker's, or want-to-be kayaker's most likely to get used resource. -- Eric Jackson By far the most fun book I've ever seen on kayak instruction! -- Tao Berman

A world famous cartoonist, called the "Poet Laureate" of the whitewater community, William Nealy became a cult figure in the world of outdoor sports with his combination of instruction and artful caricatures in his paddling and mountain biking manuals. Nealy died in 2001. As an instructor, Nealy's strength lay in his ability to convey in simple terms the often counter-intuitive techniques of

adventure sports. Nealy was arguably the best-known ambassador of his sport, entertaining and instructing hundreds of thousands of paddlers through his illustrated books. The success of the first edition of Kayak as an instruction manual hinged squarely on Nealy's ability to convey himself personally to the reader. It is all too obvious that each of the mishaps that befall the illustrated characters populating each of his books happened, in reality, to Nealy himself. That self-effacement, while hilarious, also embodied empathy for the reader and for the mishaps that were sure to befall him as he bounced his or her way down the steep learning curve of the sport. In short, each reader of Kayak, as well as Inline (an inline skating manual) and Mountain Bike, grew to trust Nealy as a teacher because he felt he knew William as a friend.

In no way does this book replace actual quality instruction on the river with a qualified instructor, but it does provide a useful complement to that in person instruction. Like the 3 star review, this book is a little too right brained for my taste, but some of the illustrations are helpful. It does not focus so much on basic strokes and concepts as much as on things you may encounter on the river. Some of the explanations are detailed and useful, but others are confusing and unhelpful. But here's the thing, no one book on whitewater kayaking is going to give you everything you need and no book will ever replace the experience of learning from a quality instructor on the river who can see what you're doing and what's right and wrong with it. Given that, this is a valuable resource that complements that on the water instruction and can be particularly useful to paddlers who seek visual illustrations of whitewater.

Excellent for both novice and advanced kayaker. For those who venture beyond lake or bayou kayaking, this is a nice choice for adults and children, given the illustrated approach to the subject matter. Highly recommended whether you are in a yak in Class 1 wiffles or some heavier foam and rollers going downhill in a river full of rocks. Would make a great gift for kayaking friends.

A classic. If you don't have it, it is a must buy

What a clever & creative writing style! William Nealy would have been a treasure to call your friend! His closest friends did us a huge favor bringing this resource to print. Thank you! Nealy's artful sketches and caricatures are spot on... simplifying what otherwise would be complicated concepts & situations to explain... Duh! "Now I get it"! Wm. Nealy's book, Kayak: The New Frontier is like a Bible for those wanting to learn how to more safely navigate moving water. KUDOS!

I just started whitewater kayaking with a class late last autumn and began paddling outside 2 1/2 months ago. So far I've put in about 90 hours boating in that time and the concepts in this book finally feel like they're starting to sink in. The explanations are really clear. The illustrations are (of course) fantastic. And humorous, which helps keep the topics interesting, for those of us who would prefer to be actually ON the water, rather than reading about it! Sometimes it really helps to experience physical visuals, too. Nealy describes eddy fences and boils in a way that really makes them seem like 3-D features. Which they are. But until I paddled the Ottawa River, the ones I encountered were so subtle that their shape wasn't clear. While there on the Ottawa, I really *saw* and *felt* them, and had my "Aha! This is what he means!" moment. I've read the book once, and I think it's time to read it again. I imagine I'll be reading it over and over as I progress, picking up different useful things at each stage of my development.

I learned a lot from Nealy's books and maps when I first started boating. I was lucky enough to meet him. He had such an imaginative way of looking at things and making them memorable. His art puts an easily remembered view to the way things work and what actually happens when your moves don't. In the lower corner of the pages he shows a roll in progress; as you let them flip by under your thumb. Even today "if you can't spit, don't run run it" still applies, unless you enjoy being severely thrashed. Even if you are a short boat hot dog, give it a read and get an idea of what it was like in a 13' 2" boat running stuff without seeing videos, reading blogs/forums, depending on the few books available and often Nealy's maps to get even a clue what was over the next drop or round the corner. Oh yeah, no cell phones, imagine that, no help coming, on your own.

Great info presented in an entertaining way. Sums up the culture of white water paddling as well. I have bought copies for friends over the years. Every white water paddler should have this.

Even though the illustrations are humorous, they're also really helpful in understanding what the author is talking about when it comes to river conditions, water flows, etc. It's hard to be both practical and entertaining, but I think the author did a good job on mixing the two. The result is a fun but still very useful guide for kayaking fans who want to learn more about white water kayaking and techniques. I enjoyed reading this book, and will be sharing it with other kayaking enthusiasts.

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