

BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE – ARON RALSTON

'Between a Rock and a Hard Place' is a 2004 autobiographical book by American mountain climber Aron Ralston. It details an incident that occurred in 2003 when Ralston was canyoneering in Blue John Canyon in the Utah desert, where he became trapped for five days. The book predominantly recounts Ralston's experience being trapped in the canyon and how he was forced to amputate his right arm with a blunt pocket knife to free himself after the arm became trapped by a boulder. It also describes Ralston's childhood, how he took up outdoor activities after moving to Colorado from Indiana, how he came to be an obsessive outdoorsman and how he left his engineering career at Intel in Arizona to take up outdoor activities as much as possible.

The title '**Between a Rock and a Hard Place**' is an idiom and a well-known saying. The phrase implies a situation in which a person doesn't have any choice instead there are only two options both are unsatisfactory and unwelcome. It is usually used metaphorically. Here, it foreshadows that the writer will find himself in a predicament where any decision he makes will be a difficult one.

The extract opens with minute details about how the writer (narrator) is inching his way across the massive canyon. The first paragraph, which opens up with a short and simple sentence "**I come to another drop-off**" introduces the use of first-person, showing that we are in a person's narrative, and as usual for an intimate, autobiographical piece. It is written in the present tense, which means that the events are unfolding in front of us. The narrative voice is unaware of what will happen in the future. This makes it immediate, dramatic and tense. A '**drop-off**' is a sudden drop in floor level in the canyon that he is exploring. The technical diction of climbing shows the reader that the writer is an expert at this, making what happens next even more awful. The word '**another**' implies that he has already been exposed to a similar situation and the idea of how experienced he is, reinforces his confidence.

The expertise of Ralston is shown through the long sentence "**Instead of the walls widening after the drop-off, or opening into a bowl at the bottom of the canyon, here the slot narrows to a consistent three feet across at the lip of the drop-off and continues at that width for fifty feet down the canyon**". The use of long sentence structure reflects how scrupulously and detailed the structure of climbing was scrutinized, which conveys the information that he was able to assess his surroundings accurately and analytically. The demonstrative pronoun "**This**" is used to engage the readers who are able to see what the narrator is pointing to. He also used mathematical language such as "**maybe eleven or twelve feet**", "**consistent three feet**" to display he was adept at gauging distance – a standard skill for excellent climbers, apart from informing the readers about the expanse he was climbing. The use of the word '**may be**' suggests uncertainty and a colloquial informality alerting us to the fact that Ralston is in an unfamiliar location, and therefore potentially at far great risk. The use of the word '**geometry**' reinforces the idea of how angular the rock face was. This account is peppered with technical lexis relating to the rocks and his movements which convince the reader that the writer has a reasonable degree of experience in free climbing.

The writer then goes into a description of the rock he is going to descend distinguishing it from the one he climbed '**ten minutes ago**', and this creates an immediate sense that he is adventurous and has an intricate knowledge of what he was doing. He, then highlights –**refrigerator chock stone, ledge and drop-off** and these are examples for the semantic field of mountaineering. A chock stone is a rock

Between The Sheikh And A Hard Place 1 Turned

**Zahir-al-din Imperator Indiae
Muhammad Babur**



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Why Did You Come If You Leave Again? Volume 1 Conradin Perner, 2016-10-28 The book *Why Did You Come If You Leave Again* is an ethnographers personal account of the five years he spent in one of the remotest parts of Africa In the authors comprehensive monograph eight volumes published by Schwabe about the Anyuak a little known tribe in South Sudan there was no space left for a portrait of the person who did the fieldwork his professional and personal itinerary his experiences and attitudes his relationship with the local people let alone for all the adventures he lived when crossing the wilderness and when struggling to stay alive The travel autobiography sheds light on the long and tedious process of ethnographic fieldwork it is both personal and profound varying between moments of actions and reflections and eventually leading to an intimate encounter with an African culture The many riveting stories told in the book are signposts of a spiritual psychological philosophical and physically exhausting expedition through arid savannah flooded plains and compact walls of elephant grass to the spiritual home of a courageous people who have created in the middle of wilderness a center of humanity Though the narrative is essentially about the discovery of a foreign culture it also relates the exploration of the ethnographers own identity in an environment that didnt offer any possibility to escape The book is about thirst starvation loneliness and lightening sickness and death joy and deliverance snakes and spirits shadow spittle and footprints and eventually about the authors quest for meaning beauty and understanding of the world The memoir tells a saga about forlornness hope and achievement and last but not least growing friendships as the only reward for struggle and pain The researchers autobiography is captivating for the soul and the mind It is funny sad informative inspiring and poetic *The Far Enemy* Fawaz A. Gerges, 2009-04-13 This edition shows that not only have the jihadists split ranks but those who previously supported al Qaeda are condemning its tactics *The Wiley Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature, Volume 1* Gene Andrew Jarrett, 2014-01-02 The Wiley Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature is a comprehensive collection of poems short stories novellas novels plays autobiographies and essays authored by African Americans from the eighteenth century until the present Evenly divided into two volumes it is also the first such anthology to be conceived and published for both classroom and online education in the new millennium Reflects the current scholarly and pedagogic structure of African American literary studies Selects literary texts according to extensive research on classroom adoptions scholarship and the expert opinions of leading professors Organizes literary texts according to more appropriate periods of literary history dividing them into seven sections that accurately depict intellectual cultural and political movements Includes more reprints of entire works and longer selections of major works than any other anthology of its kind This first volume contains a comprehensive collection of texts authored by African Americans from the eighteenth century until the 1920s The two volumes of this landmark anthology can also be bought as a set at over 20% savings [Memoirs of Zehir-ed-din Muhammed Baber, Emperor of Hindustan, Written by Himself, in the Jaghatai Turki, and Translated, Partly by the Late John](#)

Leyden ... Partly by William Erskine with Notes and a Geographical and Historical Introduction (etc.) Zahir-al-din Emperor Indiae Muhammad Babur,1826 *Detention of Terrorism Suspects* Maureen Duffy,2018-02-08 Controversial erosions of individual liberties in the name of anti terrorism are ongoing in liberal democracies The focus of this book is on the manner in which strategic discourse has been used to create accepted political narratives It specifically links aspects of that discourse to problematic and evolving terrorism detention practices that happen outside of traditional criminal and wartime paradigms with examples including the detentions at Guantanamo Bay and security certificates in Canada This book suggests that biased political discourse has in some respects continued to fuel public misconceptions about terrorism which have then led to problematic legal enactments supported by those misconceptions It introduces this idea by presenting current examples such as some of the language used by US President Donald Trump regarding terrorism and it argues that such language has supported questionable legal responses to terrorism It then critiques political arguments that began after 9 11 many of which are still foundational as terrorism detention practices evolve The focus is on language emanating from the US and the book links this language to specific examples of changed detention practices from the US Canada and the UK Terrorism is undoubtedly a real threat but that does not mean that all perceptions of how to respond to terrorism are valid As international terrorism continues to grow and to change this book offers valuable insights into problems that have arisen from specific responses with the objective of avoiding those problems going forward **Memoirs of Zehir-Ed-Din Muhammed Baber** Babur (Emperor of Hindustan),1826 **A Dictionary of the English Language** Noah Webster,1829 The Bible educator, ed. by E.H. Plumptre Edward Hayes Plumptre,1874 **The Builder** ,1905 **United Arab Emirates 1975/76-2018** Anthony Axon,Susan Hewitt,2019-06-07 The second volume in a new series the Contemporary Archive of the Islamic World CAIW this title draws on the resources of World of Information a Cambridge based British publisher that since 1975 has published analyses of the politics and economics of all the Middle East countries The United Arab Emirates is a young country This title covers the first four decades or so of the country s existence looking at the individual emirates their rulers and their tribes Rivalries occasionally became conflicts but year by year differences have diminished and unity prevailed In this title each annual overview gives a comprehensive picture

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