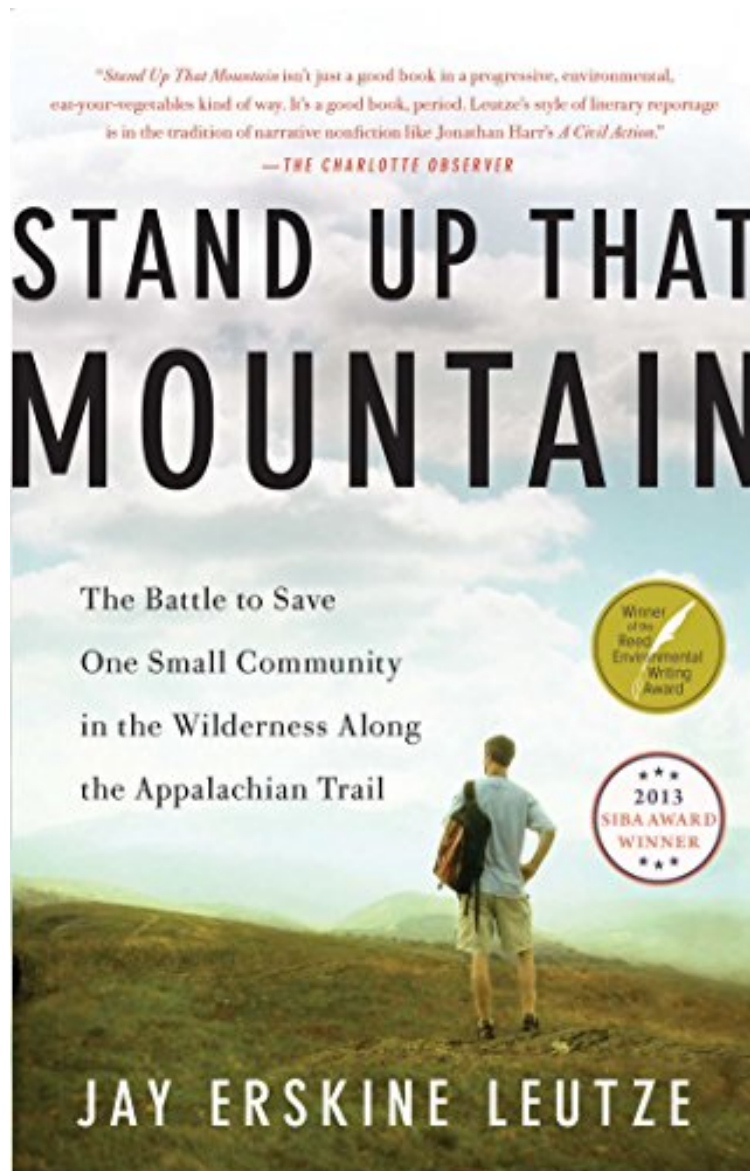


[Mobile library] Stand Up That Mountain: The Battle to Save One Small Community in the Wilderness Along the Appalachian Trail

## Stand Up That Mountain: The Battle to Save One Small Community in the Wilderness Along the Appalachian Trail

Jay Erskine Leutze

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Jay Erskine Leutze : Stand Up That Mountain: The Battle to Save One Small Community in the Wilderness Along the Appalachian Trail before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stand Up That Mountain: The Battle to Save One Small Community in the Wilderness Along the Appalachian Trail:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Engaging Look at Environmental Advocacy in America's Bureaucracy and CourtsBy Richard S. CarterI found this book to be one of those that kept me turning the pages even after my eyes were weary. The excellent descriptions, narrative and dialogue of Jay Leutze's writing are very nearly spellbinding. It's the best description I've ever read of how small groups of citizens must face extreme frustration and resistance when they go up against the entrenched forces of business, industry and so called development in America, sometimes finding arbitrary and even somewhat capricious turns of either resistance or help. At the same time, it gives readers the realization that they just may be able to do so and win. One thing that places this book above others describing similar stories is that Leutze takes care not to paint the persons involved on both sides of the issue with basic colors, but gives us insights into how complicated people placed in complex situations react to many social and self interest pressures. In addition, it's a compelling human interest yarn with dozens of fascinating characters whose lives take unexpected turns for better and worse. A true story, it fits perfectly the old adage: "You could never make that stuff up".

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this bookBy Lorie BI love this book. Bought it for a friend of my sons at graduation because she is at Warren Wilson and would be in the area. We plan to vacation in the area next summer just so I can take the hike on the balds he and the community fought so hard to save from corporate greed. I will purchase another copy so all of my sons can read it before we go. One of my favorite books.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Simply delightful!By Benny the WoolfWho would believe that the story about the legal process of revoking a mining permit through the North Carolina state court system could make such entertaining and engaging reading? Jay Leutze's elegantly smooth writing allows us not only to be engaged with the legal wrangling, but to be intimately involved with the people whose lives are affected by the process: Ollie, Ashley, Paul, and all of the "nicknamed". With a warm appreciation and respect for mountain people, Mr. Leutze has preserved a five year narrative of an ever diminishing culture beset by the ever increasing pressure of development. And it's riveting! The way that Leutze presents the events makes the story read like a true Southern fiction and I can easily see this being interpreted in film...delightfully, humorously, and poignantly. The perfect human interest story moviegoers love. The overlapping interests of the mountain community, the legal community, the conservation community, the mining community, and the real estate development community provides pretty much everyone an angle that thoroughly engages them, and this is the beauty of Leutze's writing. His successful attempt to fully develop the players in the drama causes the reader to avoid the "us versus them" cliché; and instead appreciate that there are various sides to any story. I recommend this book to anyone who has interest in the protection of our diverse cultures and our scenic wonders; and I recommend it to anyone who simply loves a great story. Thank you, Jay!

In the tradition of *A Civil Action*; the true story of a North Carolina outdoorsman who teams up with his Appalachian "mountain people" neighbors to save treasured land from being destroyed. Living alone in his wooded mountain retreat, Jay Leutze gets a call from a whip-smart fourteen-year-old, Ashley Cook, and her aunt, Ollie Cox, who say a mining company is intent on tearing down Belview Mountain, the towering peak above their house. Ashley and her family, who live in a little spot known locally as Dog Town, are "mountain people," with a way of life and speech unique to their home high in the Appalachians. They suspect the mining company is violating the law, and they want Jay, a nonpracticing attorney, to stop the destruction of the mountain. Jay, a devoted naturalist and fisherman, quickly decides to join their cause. So begins the epic quest of the "Dog Town Bunch," a battle that involves fiery public hearings, clandestine surveillance of the mine operator's activities, ferocious pressure on public officials, and high-stakes legal brinksmanship in the North Carolina court system. Jay helps assemble a talented group of environmental lawyers to do battle with the well-funded attorneys protecting the mining company's plan to dynamite Belview Mountain, which happens to sit next to the famous Appalachian Trail, the 2,184-mile national park that stretches from Maine to Georgia. As the mining company continues to level the forest and erect a gigantic rock-crushing plant on the site, Jay's group searches frantically for a way to stop an act of environmental desecration that will destroy a fragile wild place and mar the Appalachian Trail forever. Much more than the record of a legal battle, *Stand Up That Mountain* takes the reader to a remote corner of Appalachia, a region often stereotyped and little understood, even now in the twenty-first century. A naturally elegant writer, Jay Leutze delivers a powerful, beautifully written story full of remarkable characters, such as "Wingfoot," an elusive protector of the Appalachian Trail; a stubborn mining company engineer intent on pulling down the mountain in the face of intense opposition; and Ron Howell, a retired and legendary North Carolina Superior Court judge known as the "Heel Hound" for his relentless pursuit of legal victory. Jay's plaintiff group is eventually joined by several national conservation groups who see that Belview Mountain and the Appalachian Trail must be protected for future generations of Americans. A great contemporary story that demonstrates what is possible when local people set their minds to righting a local wrong, *Stand Up That Mountain* will appeal to conservationists, hikers, attorneys, and readers fascinated by Appalachia and rural life, and anyone

interested in a compelling story both well told and true.