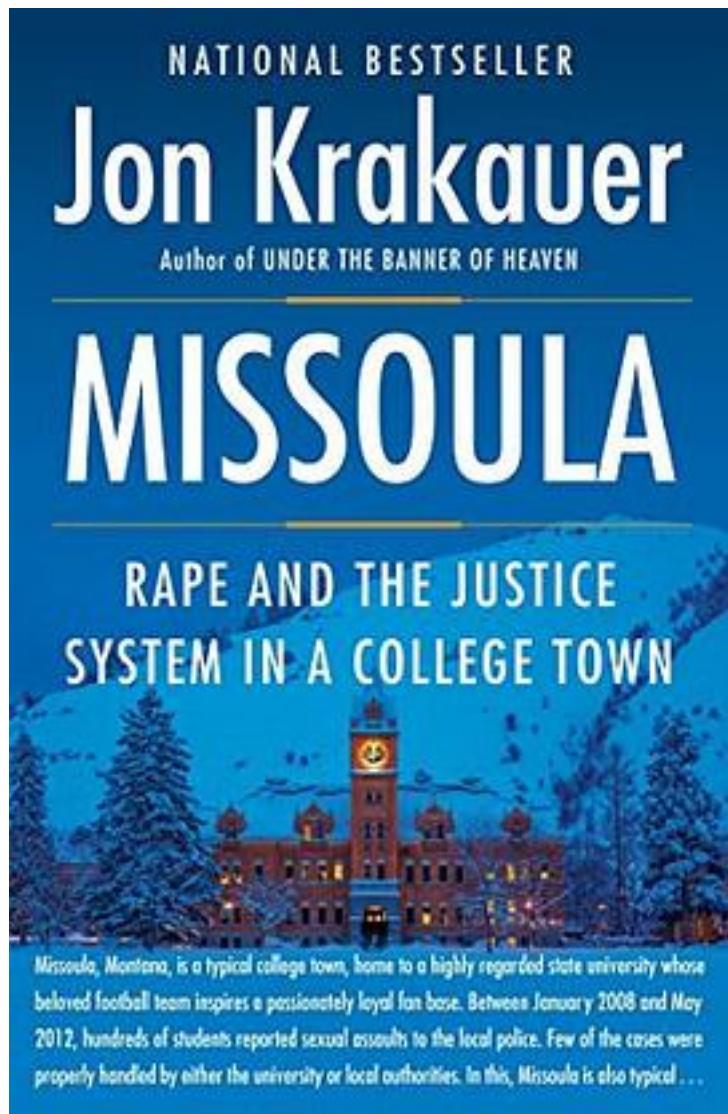


Missoula



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著者:Jon Krakauer

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From bestselling author Jon Krakauer, a stark, powerful, meticulously reported narrative about a series of sexual assaults at the University of Montana — stories that illuminate the human drama behind the national plague of campus rape.

Missoula, Montana, is a typical college town, with a highly regarded state university, bucolic surroundings, a lively social scene, and an excellent football team — the Grizzlies — with a rabid fan base.

The Department of Justice investigated 350 sexual assaults reported to the Missoula police between January 2008 and May 2012. Few of these assaults were properly handled by either the university or local authorities. In this, Missoula is also typical.

A DOJ report released in December of 2014 estimates 110,000 women between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four are raped each year. Krakauer’s devastating narrative of what happened in Missoula makes clear why rape is so prevalent on American campuses, and why rape victims are so reluctant to report assault.

Acquaintance rape is a crime like no other. Unlike burglary or embezzlement or any other felony, the victim often comes under more suspicion than the alleged perpetrator. This is especially true if the victim is sexually active; if she had been drinking prior to the assault — and if the man she accuses plays on a popular sports team. The vanishingly small but highly publicized incidents of false accusations are often used to dismiss her claims in the press. If the case goes to trial, the woman’s entire personal life becomes fair game for defense attorneys.

This brutal reality goes a long way towards explaining why acquaintance rape is the most underreported crime in America. In addition to physical trauma, its victims often suffer devastating psychological damage that leads to feelings of shame, emotional paralysis and stigmatization. PTSD rates for rape victims are estimated to be 50%, higher than soldiers returning from war.

In Missoula, Krakauer chronicles the searing experiences of several women in Missoula — the nights when they were raped; their fear and self-doubt in the aftermath; the way they were treated by the police, prosecutors, defense attorneys; the public vilification and private anguish; their bravery in pushing forward and what it cost them.

Some of them went to the police. Some declined to go to the police, or to press charges, but sought redress from the university, which has its own, non-criminal judicial process when a student is accused of rape. In two cases the police agreed to press charges and the district attorney agreed to prosecute. One case led to a conviction; one to an acquittal. Those women courageous enough to press charges or to speak publicly about their experiences were attacked in the media, on Grizzly football fan sites, and/or to their faces. The university expelled three of the accused rapists, but one was reinstated by state officials in a secret proceeding. One district attorney testified for an alleged rapist at his university hearing. She later left the prosecutor’s office and successfully defended the Grizzlies’ star quarterback in his rape trial. The horror of being raped, in each woman’s case, was magnified by the mechanics of the justice system and the reaction of the community.

Krakauer’s dispassionate, carefully documented account of what these women endured cuts through the abstract ideological debate about campus rape. College-age women are not raped because they are promiscuous, or drunk, or send mixed signals,

or feel guilty about casual sex, or seek attention. They are the victims of a terrible crime and deserving of compassion from society and fairness from a justice system that is clearly broken.

作者介绍:

Jon Krakauer is an American writer and mountaineer, well-known for outdoor and mountain-climbing writing.

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标签

Justice

Jon Krakauer

non-fiction

Rape

Crime

True

System

Acquaintance

评论

第一次读这种基于专题的深入分析，非常喜欢作者的写作风格和思路，然后发现居然是《into the wild》的作者，不禁再次钦佩和赞赏。之前看过很多的律政剧、控辩剧，但这本书让我对美国的司法体系有了一个整体的全新的了解。作者调查的是一个美国东北部典型的传统小镇，有一个著名的大学以及整个城市乃至整个州引以为傲的球队，在此前后几年间发生了几百起强奸的事件，被害人和嫌疑犯往往有深厚的童年友谊或共同的成长环境共同的朋友。强奸案尤其是发生在熟人之间的强奸案，因为事件的性质、举证的困难、事件对当事双方的伤害等等特殊性，导致了警方控方校方辩方不同的立场不同的举措。而且伴随着州和联邦的权限，公民和罪犯的权利，校方和学生的关系，写的非常的翔实和生动。

瞠目结舌。大学里发生强奸案的频率和之后的调查和审判都让人对这个世界很灰心。

"They are good boys". How ridiculous.

对于美国蒙大拿州一个大学镇的强奸案泛滥的深度考察。

看完《黑箱》后顺着作者推荐又看了这一本，真是背脊发凉。橄榄球队是性侵重灾区，体育明星，法官，警察这些代表着社会主流势力的角色一但想做恶，那真是铲都铲不掉。可能因为美国社会一直宣传平等，很少人意识到当涉及权力名声的时候，为正义发声是有多困难。

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书评

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