

A misread map, a sudden storm, a forgotten headlamp—and suddenly a leisurely hike turns into a treacherous endeavor. In the past decade, inexpensive but sophisticated navigation devices and mobile phones have led to alarming levels of overconfidence on the trail. Adding to this worrisome trend, the increasing popularity of ventures into mountainous terrain has led hikers seeking solitude—or an adrenaline rush—into increasingly remote or risky forays. Sandy Stott, the “Accidents” editor at the journal of the Appalachian Mountain Club, delivers both a history and a celebration of the search and rescue workers who save countless lives in the White Mountains—along with a plea for us not to take their steadfastness and bravery for granted. Filled with tales of astonishing courage and sobering tragedy, *Critical Hours* will appeal to outdoor enthusiasts and armchair adventurers alike.

**Sandy Stott** is a former editor of Appalachian Mountain Club’s journal *Appalachia*, a longtime English teacher, and a lifelong wanderer in the White Mountains.

**Kyle Tait** is a professionally trained voice actor and narrator in Atlanta, Georgia. His first brush with a microphone came in sports radio, calling baseball in the Atlanta Braves’ organization. To pass the time in the off-season, he started voicing audiobooks, and a few years later he left baseball and went into narration full-time. Now his voice can be heard on a variety of audiobook and corporate voice-over outlets worldwide.

When not in the studio, Tait can still be found moonlighting in the sports world, calling football, basketball, baseball, and softball on a variety of TV and radio outlets. He’s also a studio host with IMG College, anchoring football and basketball broadcasts for schools like TCU, UConn, and Arizona.

READ BY KYLE TAIT



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