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Reinhold Messner, a renowned Italian mountaineer, shares his life story in "My Life at the Limit". This conversation between Messner and journalist Thomas Hüetlin offers a more introspective side of the icon, covering not only his impressive climbing career but also his experiences in Tibet, the Gobi, and Antarctica, as well as his time as a member of the European Parliament. The book provides insight into Messner's childhood, his views on politics and traditional roles, and even his unusual techniques for everyday tasks. As one of history's greatest Himalayan mountaineers, Messner's legacy extends beyond his remarkable achievements. without supplemental oxygenFirst ascents Agnér northeast face Nanga Parbat Rupal face Heiligkreuzkofel middle pillar Marmolada south face Yerupaja east face Yerupaja Chico Major ascentsFirst solo ascent of Mount Everest and first ascent without supplemental oxygen Reinhold Andreas Messner is an Italian climber, explorer, and author born 17 September 1944 from the German-speaking province of South Tyrol. He achieved the first solo ascent of Mount Everest and along with Peter Habeler the first ascent of Everest without supplemental oxygen. He was the first person to climb all 14 eight-thousanders doing so without supplementary oxygen. Messner crossed Antarctica and Greenland with neither snowmobiles nor dog sleds and also crossed the Gobi Desert alone. In 1965, Reinhold Messner made a groundbreaking ascent on the north face of the Ortler. A year later, he tackled the Walker Spur on the Grandes Jorasses and conquered the Rocchetta Alta di Bosconero. In 1967, he achieved several firsts, including the northeast face of the Agnér and the first winter ascents of the Agnér north face and Furchetta north face. The following year, Messner continued his streak of achievements with the Heiligkreuzkofel middle pillar and the direct south face of the Marmolada. In 1969, he joined an Andes expedition with Peter Habeler and successfully climbed the Yerupaja east face up to the summit ridge and the Yerupaja Chico. Messner's reputation as one of Europe's top climbers grew, but his most notable achievement was yet to come. In 1970, he embarked on a Himalayan expedition to climb Nanga Parbat, where both he and his brother Günther reached the summit. Unfortunately, Günther died on the descent, and Messner lost seven toes due to frostbite. Despite this tragic event, Messner continued to push the limits of human endurance. In 1975, he climbed Gasherbrum I via a new route, taking three days to complete the ascent – an unheard-of feat at the time. Messner's most iconic achievement was yet to come. He and Peter Habeler reached the summit of Mount Everest in 1978 without supplemental oxygen, achieving what many thought impossible. This feat earned them widespread recognition and cemented Messner's reputation as a mountaineering legend. In the years that followed, Messner continued to conquer the world's highest peaks, becoming the first person to complete all fourteen eight-thousanders. He also crossed Antarctica on skis with fellow explorer Arved Fuchs. Messner has written extensively about his adventures and has held political office as a Member of the European Parliament for the Italian Green Party. Messner Mountain Museum founder, Reinhold Messner, is a renowned mountaineer and environmentalist. He is the first person to climb all 14 eight-thousanders without supplemental oxygen. Notably, he achieved this feat with multiple first ascents and traverses of various mountains in Asia. His climbs include notable routes on Nanga Parbat, Manaslu, Everest, K2, and others. In addition to his mountaineering achievements, Messner has also founded the Messner Mountain Museum, which highlights the importance of environmental protection for mountain regions worldwide. Kush's climbing and exploration career spanned decades, with notable achievements including: 1973: First climbs on Marmolada West Pillar and Furchetta West Face 1974: Partially new "South Tyrol Route" on Aconcagua south wall (6,959m) and Eiger North Face with Peter Habeler in 10 hours 1976: First climb of Denali's "Face of the Midnight Sun" 1978: First ascent of Kilimanjaro's "Breach Wall" 1979: Rescue attempt on Ama Dablam; first climbs in Hoggar Mountains, Africa 1981: Centre Summit-North Face first climb on Chamlang (7,317m) 1984: Double-Traverse of Gasherbrum II and I with Hans Kammerlander 1985: Tibet Transversale with Kailash exploration 1986: First person to complete Seven Summits without supplemental oxygen on Mount Everest 1987-1990: Antarctic crossing (over the South Pole) with Arved Fuchs; Bhutan trip 1988: Yeti-Tibet solo expedition 1989-1990: Longitudinal crossing of East Tibet 1991: Bhutan crossing (east-west); "Around South Tyrol" positioning exercise 1992: Ascent of Chimborazo (6,310m) and crossing of Taklamakan Desert in Xinjiang 1993: Trip to Dolpo, Mustang, and Manang in Nepal; Greenland longitudinal crossing (diagonal) 1994: Cleaning project in North India/Gangotri, Shivling region (6,543m); Ruwenzori (5,119m), Uganda 1995: Arctic crossing (Siberia to Canada) failed; trip to Belukha (4,506m), Altai Mountains/Siberia 1996: Trip through East Tibet and to Kailash 1997: Trip to Kham (East Tibet); small expedition into Karakoram; filming on Ol Doinyo Lengai in Tanzania 1998: Trip to the Altai Mountains (Mongolia) and to Puna de Atacama (Andes) 1999: Filming on San Francisco Peaks, Arizona (Holy mountain of Navajo); trip into Thar Desert/India 2000: Crossing of South Georgia on Shackleton Route; Nanga Parbat Expedition 2001: Dharamsala and foothills of the Himalayas/India; filming for ZDF series "Homes of the Gods" on Gunung Agung/Bali 2002: Visit to Andes and ascent of Cotopaxi (5,897m), Ecuador 2003: Trekking to Mount Everest (fiftieth anniversary of first successful climb); trip to Franz Joseph Land/Arctic 2004: Longitudinal crossing of Gobi Desert (Mongolia) on foot, about 2,000-kilometre trek 2005: Trip to Dyva Nomads in Mongolia; "time journey" around Nanga Parbat/Pakistan In 1971, Reinhold Messner embarked on an expedition to find his brother's remains but was ultimately unsuccessful in doing so. Instead, he focused on climbing and became involved in a pivotal Nanga Parbat South Face expedition led by Karl Herrligkoffer in May and June 1970. The objective of the expedition was to climb the unclimbed Rupal Face, the highest rock and ice face in the world. Messner's brother, Günther, also joined the team, and on the morning of June 27th, Reinhold decided to ascend alone due to deteriorating weather conditions. To his surprise, his brother caught up with him before reaching the summit. The two climbers eventually reached the top together but had to set up an emergency shelter without tents, sleeping bags, or stoves as darkness approached. The events of that day led to years of legal disputes among former expedition members, which have not been resolved. What is known is that Reinhold and Günther Messner successfully descended the Diamir Face, achieving the first traverse of Nanga Parbat and second traverse of an eight-thousander after Mount Everest in 1963. Reinhold returned to the valley six days later with severe frostbite but survived. However, his brother Günther died on the descent, reportedly due to an avalanche as claimed by Reinhold Messner. In June 2005, the body of Günther was recovered from the Diamir Face, supporting Messner's account. The incident inspired a film, Nanga Parbat (2010), based on Reinhold Messner's memories and not including other former members' perspectives. The movie sparked criticism from other team members who felt it presented only one side of the story. Due to frostbite suffered during the 1970 expedition, Messner's climbing abilities were compromised, especially on rock faces. He shifted his focus to higher mountains with more ice. On August 9th, 1978, after three unsuccessful attempts, Messner successfully reached the summit of Nanga Parbat via the Diamir Face. In 1972, Messner accomplished the first ascent of Manaslu's south face, an unknown route at the time, with Frank Jäger. However, during their descent, Messner became lost in heavy fog and snow but later found his way back to camp, where he reunited with Horst Fankhauser and Andi Schlick. Unfortunately, Jäger did not return despite being heard from the camp. Messner's Solo Ascent of K2 Was Not His Only Historic Achievement. Urs Mezrich, Ueli Steck, and Reinhold Messner were among six climbers who started a climb to the highest peak in the Karakoram range in 1982: Shishapangma. The team was made up of four German-speaking climbers, including doctor Ursula Grether, who had to be carried by Messner and Friedl Mutschlechner during their approach due to an injury. Due to danger from avalanches on their original route and a delay in their ascent, the team decided to take a different path. Messner completed the climb first with his partner Michael Dacher on July 12th. However, bad weather soon set in, making it difficult for other climbers to reach the summit. The group then moved on to Kangchenjunga. Messner attempted to become the first person ever to conquer three eight-thousanders in a single year. He planned to climb Kangchenjunga, Gasherbrum II, and Broad Peak. The difficulty of this attempt forced Messner and his partner Friedl Mutschlechner to use fixed ropes during their ascent. The pair eventually reached the summit on May 6th, but Mutschlechner later suffered frostbite due to the cold weather. The two were unable to continue as planned after this event. On Kangchenjunga, Messner's climbing partner, Mutschlechner, had his hands and feet frostbitten during their ascent. During their descent, the tent that they used to rest in tore away from them. Messner was also ill with an amoebic liver abscess at the time, making it difficult for him to complete the climb. His partner, however, helped Mutschlechner make it back down safely and eventually flew to Europe to receive treatment for his frostbite. Despite this setback, the three climbers still managed to reach the summit of Kangchenjunga on July 24th in poor weather conditions. Messner also discovered a missing Austrian mountaineer's body during their ascent. Climbing expeditions were carried out with variations from normal routes at the start.[24] In the winter of 1982-83, Messner attempted the first winter ascent of Cho Oyu. He reached an altitude of about 7,500 m (24,600 feet) before heavy snow forced him to turn back.[24] Later, on May 5, he reached the summit with Kammerlander and Michael Dacher via a partially new route.[24] In 1985, Messner topped out on Annapurna using a new route on the northwest face. He was joined by Kammerlander, Reinhard Patscheider, Reinhard Schiestl, and Swami Prem Darshano, with only the first three reaching the summit.[24] Messner's attempts to climb Dhaulagiri in 1977 and 1984 were unsuccessful. It wasn't until 1985 that he finally summited via the normal route along the northeast ridge with Kammerlander.[24] Messner tried climbing Makalu four times, failing each attempt including a winter expedition in 1985-86. He eventually succeeded on September 26, 1986, using the normal route with Kammerlander and Mutschlechner. [24] Messner witnessed Marcel Rüedi's death during this expedition. Rüedi was on his way back from the summit when he disappeared behind a snow ridge and was later found dead.[24] Messner climbed his last normal route and became the first person to climb all eight-thousanders, subsequently retiring from climbing eight-thousander peaks.[24] In 1989, Messner led an expedition to forge a path up the South Face of Makalu. The aim was to complete the Messner or Carstensz list, but the expedition was unsuccessful.[27] Mount Kosciuszko and Carstensz Pyramid are both high peaks, with the latter reaching an elevation of 4,884 meters. For experienced mountaineers, climbing Carstensz Pyramid is a more challenging endeavor than ascending Mount Kosciuszko, which can be considered a leisurely hike. In 1986, Pat Morrow became the first person to complete the Messner list, followed by Reinhold Messner himself when he climbed Mount Vinson in December of the same year. This achievement marked Messner's second time being listed in the Guinness Book of Records for "World's Firsts," a category that signifies the highest level of recognition, with no expiration date. As of 2021, Messner holds a significant number of these titles, including his accomplishments on Manaslu, Everest, and K2 without supplementary oxygen. He also holds records related to climbing all 8,000-meter peaks without supplemental oxygen and other notable mountaineering feats. In addition to his mountaineering achievements, Reinhold Messner has been involved in various projects, including the establishment of the Messner Mountain Museum. This museum serves as a comprehensive platform for storytelling about mountain growth, decline, culture, and history. It consists of several locations, with MMM Firmian being the central site that explores human relationships with mountains, geology, religious significance, and mountaineering history. Other sites within the museum complex delve into mystical aspects of mountains, art collections, and the geological history of the Dolomites. One of these sites, known as the Museum in the Clouds, is situated at Monte Rite and offers a unique perspective on rock formations in the region, accompanied by breathtaking views from its summit observation platform. The mountains of South Tyrol and their glaciers have been the subject of various museums, including MMM Ortles, which explores the history of ice climbing and features an extensive collection of paintings depicting the Ortler. Another museum, MMM Ripa, is dedicated to the cultures and traditions of mountain peoples from around the world. The MMM Corones museum, located on the Kronplatz mountain, focuses on traditional climbing. Reinhold Messner, a renowned mountaineer and politician, was elected as a Member of the European Parliament in 1999, representing the Federation of the Greens. He served a full term until 2004, when he retired from politics. Messner's personal life has been marked by multiple marriages and children. His achievements have been featured in various documentaries, including "The Dark Glow of the Mountains" and "Portrait of a Snow Lion." A 2021 Netflix documentary, "14 Peaks: Nothing Is Impossible," features Messner providing commentary on Nirmal Purja's record-breaking ascent of the 14 highest mountains. Reinhold Messner, considered by many to be the greatest mountaineer of all time, has had a storied career spanning over four decades. Born in Italy, Messner rose to fame for being the first person to climb all 14 eight-thousander peaks without supplemental oxygen. He is also known for his record-breaking ascents and descents on some of the most challenging mountains in the world. Messner's climbing career began in the 1960s and included notable climbs such as Mount Everest, K2, and Nanga Parbat. His experiences on these expeditions have been documented in several books and films, including his memoir "Free Spirit: A Climber's Life". Throughout his career, Messner has been involved in numerous controversies, including a 2005 incident where a body was discovered on Nanga Parbat, sparking a debate over the ethics of climbing. He has also faced criticism for his role in a fatal climb with his brother Peter. Despite these controversies, Messner remains an iconic figure in the world of mountaineering and has been recognized by Guinness World Records as the first person to complete all 14 eight-thousanders without oxygen. Today, Messner operates several museums and foundations dedicated to promoting mountain culture and conservation. His legacy continues to inspire climbers and adventurers around the world. Reinhold Messner, a renowned Italian mountaineer and explorer, has had a long and storied career. In 2014, he was featured in various articles and museums, including the Messner Mountain Museum's MMM Dolomites, MMM Ortles, and MMM Ripa. His marriage to Diane Schumacher was also reported on, although it was initially unclear when they got married. Messner has written several books about his climbing experiences, including "The Crystal Horizon: Everest – The First Solo Ascent" and "All Fourteen 8,000ers." He has been featured in various media outlets, including a review of the film "14 Peaks: Nothing Is Impossible" by Lisa Kennedy in The New York Times. Messner has also been involved in controversies, such as his marriage to Diane Schumacher, which was met with surprise and scrutiny. His brother's death on Mount Everest also sparked controversy, but Messner was eventually cleared of any wrongdoing. Throughout his career, Messner has climbed many of the world's highest peaks, including all 14 eight-thousanders. He has been featured in various documentaries and films, including "Portrait of a Snow Lion" and "Messner." Here are some key points from the text: * Reinhold Messner was featured in various articles and museums in 2014. * His marriage to Diane Schumacher sparked controversy and surprise. * Messner has written several books about his climbing experiences. * He has been involved in controversies, including his brother's death on Mount Everest. * Messner is a renowned mountaineer and explorer who has climbed many of the world's highest peaks. Reinhold Messner, an accomplished mountaineer, received a prestigious award from the American Academy of Achievement in recognition of his achievements. Messner has also won the Golden Plate Award, which is given to individuals who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. He is featured in the documentary series "Everest: Expedition to the Ultimate," where he shares his experiences and insights on mountaineering.