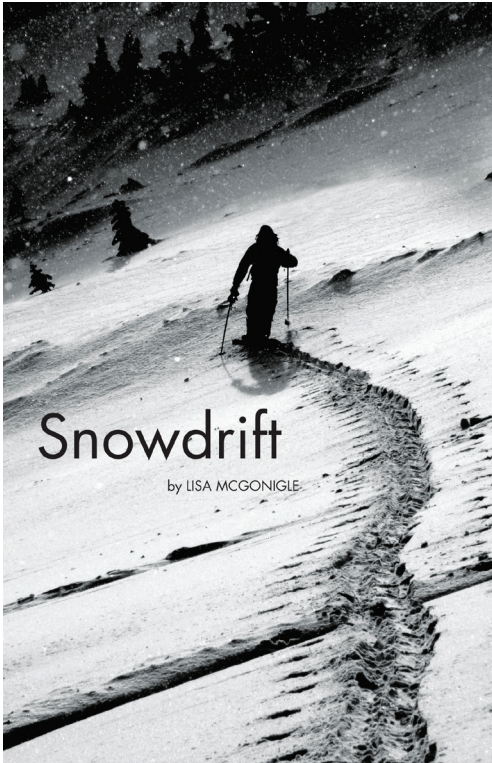


NEW OOLICHAN TRAVELOGUE - SPRING 2011



Snowdrift

LISA MCGONIGLE

Have you ever wanted to pack your bags and head for the hills?

Well, that's precisely what Lisa McGonigle did when she abandoned her scholarship at Oxford and moved to the mountains of British Columbia to become a ski-bum. Enjoy this informative and often humorous journal which recounts her adventures.

Composed of the emails written as events unfolded, and infused with an Irish take on Canadiana, *Snowdrift* documents the joyous, impoverished and injury-ridden life of a ski-bum who'll do almost anything for fresh lines and explores just what happens when you leave it all behind to follow the snow.

Newly graduated from university in Ireland, Lisa McGonigle came to the Kootenay region of British Columbia to spend a winter snowboarding. She wrote emails to her friends back home describing a remote mountain-town called Fernie, a series of smashes in the terrain park, unrivalled powder turns, working for minimum-wage and duct-taping over the holes in her outerwear. She left to take up a PhD scholarship to Oxford but the lure of the snow was too much. Several months later she abandoned her laptop, clothes and bike in Oxford and ran away back to BC. She went on to spend another three winters in the Kootenays, trading Fernie for an even smaller, more remote town called Rossland and learning to ski for good measure as well.

Lisa McGonigle grew up in North County Dublin, Ireland. She attended Trinity College Dublin and the University of Aberdeen, Scotland before coming to British Columbia in 2005. Having spent several years skiing, snowboarding and hiking in the Kootenays, she is currently studying for a PhD in English at the University of Otago, New Zealand.

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