



ONE BOOK ❖ ONE COLLEGE
2009 - 2010

The One Book, One College Program
Presents

Three Cups of Tea:

The College Book Essay Contest

The 2009-2010 Chaffey College Book, *Three Cups of Tea*, introduces readers to Greg Mortenson, an American whose failed attempt to climb the world's second-highest peak leads him to Korphe, a secluded Pakistani village where children have no prospect of receiving a formal education. Touched by the kindness of the villagers and moved by the children's fierce desire to learn, Mortenson vows to return one day to build a school. *Three Cups of Tea* chronicles Mortenson's effort to make good on that promise and reveals what can happen when one person chooses to make a positive difference in the world.

Three Cups of Tea is a book that many of us can relate to. Its pages invite us to consider promises made and kept, instances of failure and how they affected us, and moments when our own life changed course. It allows us to reflect upon displays of incredible hospitality, interactions with people from a different culture, and experiences of being an outsider or of being accepted into a community. It encourages us to ponder examples of patience, occasions when we found ourselves in peril and narrowly escaped harm, and lessons about the value of an education. It conjures up memories of bestowing or receiving an unexpected gift, of inspiring someone or of being inspired, and of witnessing the truth that one person can make a difference.

The One Book, One College Committee would like to read your writing on any of these topics or on any subject that relates to *Three Cups of Tea*. We are interested in your definitions of happiness and heroism and your arguments about the politics of *burkhas*, the relationship between illiteracy and crime, and the role of America in the fight on global poverty. We look forward to your analysis of Rumi's poetry and your evaluation of the Americanization of third world countries. We welcome research papers on Islam, Pakistani-Indian relations, the war on terror, humanitarianism, or mountain climbing. In short, we are delighted to receive any piece of non-fiction that relates to the Chaffey College Book.

Essays should be between two and six double-spaced pages. A panel of OBOC Committee members will judge the entries based on originality, compelling content, and quality of written expression.

How to submit your essay:

Deadline: Friday, March 26, 2010 by 2 PM

A paginated hard copy of your essay may be submitted in the Rancho Campus Writing Center, the Fontana Success Center, or the Chino Reading/Writing Center any time prior to the deadline. Please do not write your name on your essay. Instead, include a separate title page with your name, phone number, and student ID number. Please also include your title on the first page of your essay.

**Finalists receive cash prizes and are invited to read their essays
at an evening awards ceremony in April.**

1st Place (one prize) - \$300

Runner Up (one prize) - \$100

Honorable Mention (up to eight prizes) - \$50

For more information, contact Prof. Neil Watkins (652-6952) or Prof. Deckard Hodge (652-6924).