

VALLEY OF THE BOOM

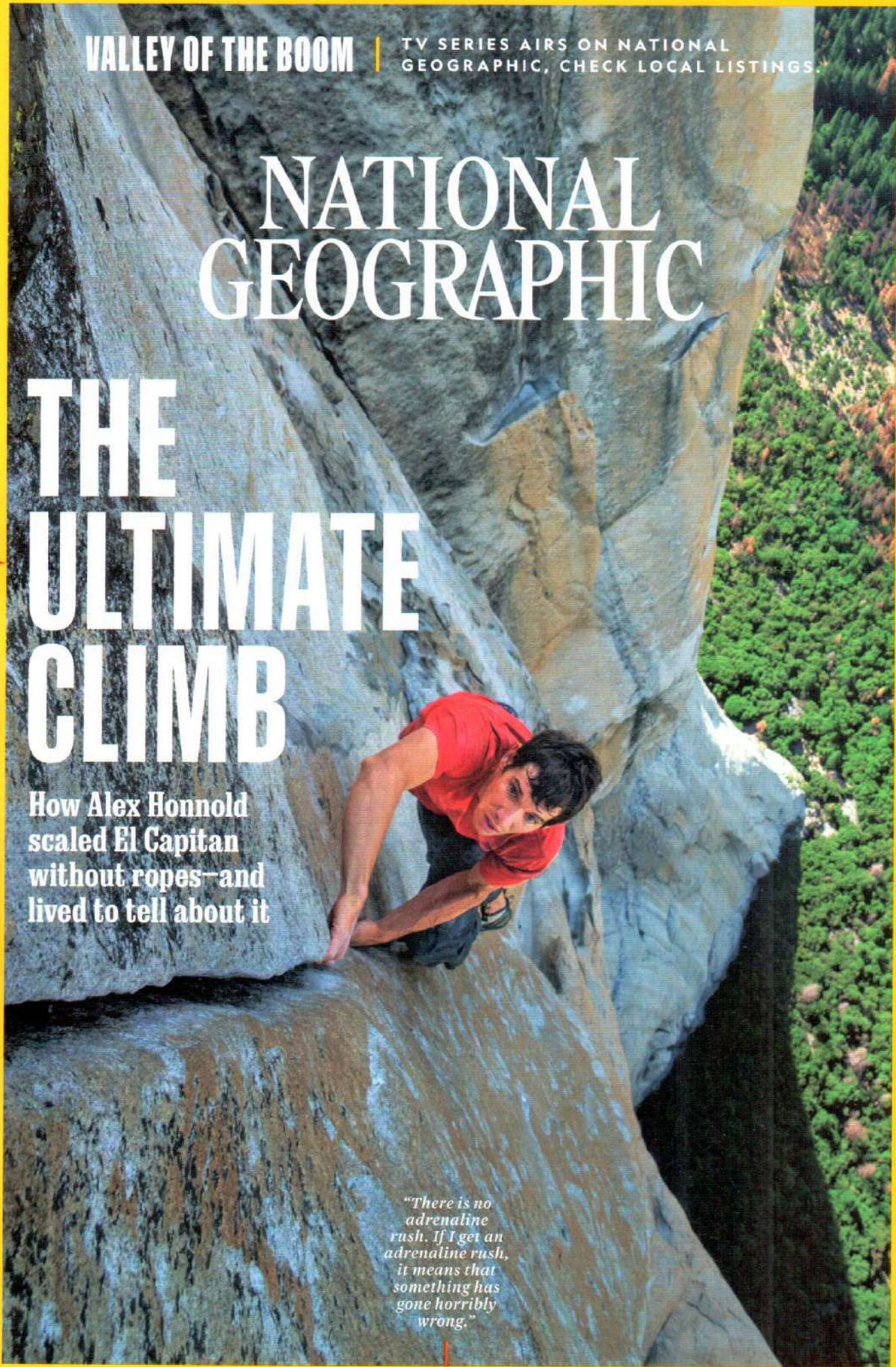
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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

THE ULTIMATE CLIMB

How Alex Honnold scaled El Capitan without ropes—and lived to tell about it

"There is no adrenaline rush. If I get an adrenaline rush, it means that something has gone horribly wrong."



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On the Cover
 Since 2007 Alex Honnold had made “free-solo” ascents—alone, without a rope—of other daunting routes in Yosemite. But none compared to his June 2017 climb up El Capitan.

JIMMY CHIN

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South Africa’s Majorettes
 For girls and young women in South Africa, being a “drummy” requires dedication—and pays dividends in confidence and pride.
 PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALICE MANN

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 Frigatebirds woo mates by inflating a body part and drumming on it. What’s not to love?
 BY PATRICIA EDMONDS

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Solo

Alex Honnold is famous for climbing formidable rock faces without using ropes. But El Capitan?

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Mystery shrouds child killings some 500 years ago in what's now Peru.

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Australia grapples with a kangaroo issue.

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ON TV

Valley of the Boom

This docudrama about the internet's early days airs Sunday nights through January 27 at 9/8c, on National Geographic.