Into Thin Air Argument

In this paper, you are going to take a stand on one of the ethical issues you discussed in the last paper and explain why you think the particular situation described in the book was handled ethically or unethically.

You've already done a great deal of preparation for this paper. Choose the issue from your summary that you feel strongest about. Identify in your mind some reasons to support the stand you want to take.

Use your introduction to lead the reader sympathetically into the issue you have chosen, perhaps with an analogy, a personal anecdote, or a related problem. Use transitional devices to move into an introduction of the book and author and the particular issue you have chosen. State your thesis at the end of the introduction, making a clear judgment but also showing your understanding of the complexity of the issue (i.e., Although . . .).

Your body paragraphs will develop your reasons but also acknowledge, in some way, the “con” or the complicating factors that you recognize. Focus each body paragraph with a clear topic sentence that addresses the reason you’re going to discuss. You will need specific support in all the body paragraphs, consisting mainly of details from Into Thin Air (carefully cited and documented, of course). You may also use any of our course readings. No other research or support is needed, and if you use any other sources, they must, of course, be cited scrupulously. I strongly suggest, however, that you focus just on the text itself and the other readings we have discussed. I am looking at, in this paper, your ability to think about what you have read and present a logical argument about the ethical issue you have chosen.

Conclude your paper with a reassertion of your stand and perhaps a consideration of the larger significance of the issue you’ve discussed. Did Mt. Everest provide only one example of a global problem? Does climbing only intensify common human dilemmas? What have you learned from your consideration of this book?