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Review

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"The Great One" weaves memories of his legendary career with an inside look at the sport of professional hockey, and the heroes and stories that inspired him.

From minor-hockey phenomenon to Hall of Fame sensation, Wayne Gretzky rewrote the record books, his accomplishments becoming the stuff of legend. Dubbed "The Great One," he is considered by many to be the greatest hockey player who ever lived. No one has seen more of the game than he has—but he has never discussed in depth just what it was he saw.

For the first time, Gretzky discusses candidly what the game looks like to him and introduces us to the people who inspired and motivated him: mentors, teammates, rivals, the famous and the lesser known. Weaving together lives and moments from an extraordinary career, he reflects on the players who inflamed his imagination when he was a kid, the way he himself figured in the dreams of so many who came after; takes us onto the ice and into the dressing rooms to meet the friends who stood by him and the rivals who spurred him to greater heights; shows us some of the famous moments in hockey history through the eyes of someone who regularly made that history.

Warm, direct, and revelatory, it is a book that gives us number 99, the man and the player, like never before.

From the Hardcover edition.

- Sales Rank: #762974 in Books
- Published on: 2016-10-18
- Released on: 2016-10-18
- Formats: Audiobook, CD, Unabridged
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 10
- Dimensions: 5.90" h x 1.10" w x 5.10" l,
- Running time: 720 minutes
- Binding: Audio CD

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34 of 36 people found the following review helpful. Gretzky Scores Again!

By D. Buxman

Even the casual hockey fan knows the name and the legend of Wayne Gretzky and it's hard to separate the person from his reputation as The Great One. This is a wonderful book because it celebrates Gretzky's love and reverence for the game by examining the 99 year history of the NHL through the eyes of its greatest player. The stories of the players that made hockey such a wonderful sport through the early years are interspersed with Gretzky's stories of how those players impacted his development as a person and as a player. As such, this book is not only a terrific work of sports history, but also a fabulous autobiography that yields compelling insights into Gretzky himself. Much like Gordie Howe's autobiography, Mr. Hockey, I was left with an overwhelming sense of just how down to earth some sports superstars can be. Rather than extolling their own virtues, these players constantly talk about Gratitude. It's all about how grateful they are to their parents, coaches, teammates and their fans. If you are sick and tired of the typical ego-maniacal professional athlete, read this book for a breath of fresh air.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A good history of hockey

By Reviewer from afar

The book chronicles the development of hockey in North America with many personal anecdotes of individual players. It provides a rough framework of the development of the NHL. That said, Wayne is a far better hockey player than he is a writer.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Go kings!

By idub

Bought the hardcover book for my dad the die hard kings fan who bought a kindle and won't use it. He love's it. Says there's a lot of things he didn't know in there.

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