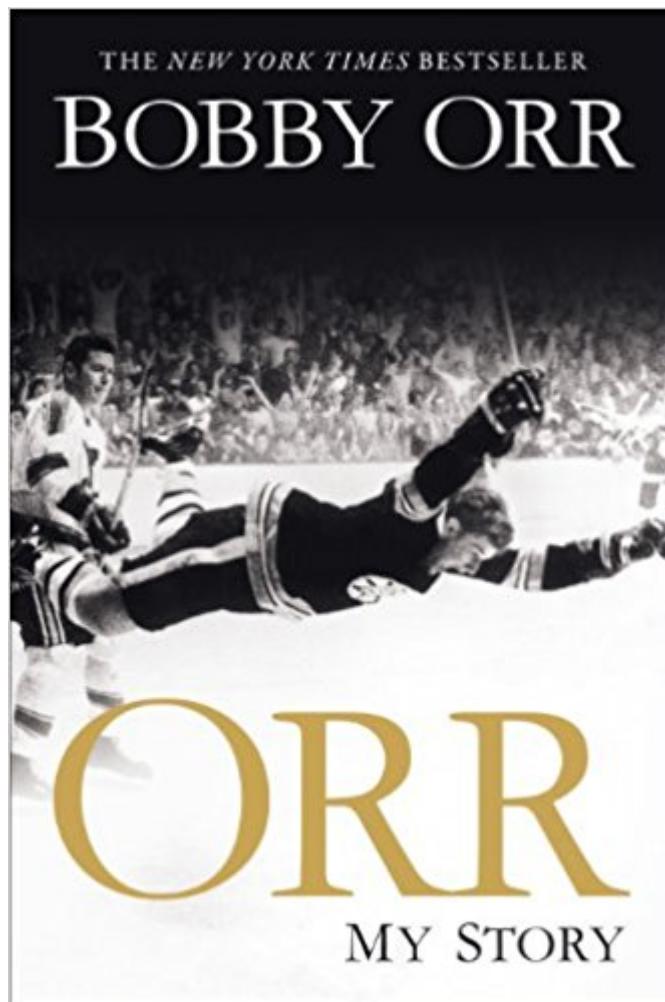


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Orr: My Story



Synopsis

The NHL legend tells his story from his Ontario childhood to his years with the Bruins and Blackhawks, to today. A New York Times Bestseller! A A Bobby Orr is often referred to as the greatest defenseman ever to play the game of hockey. But all the brilliant achievements leave unsaid as much as they reveal. They don't tell what inspired Orr, what drove him, what it was like for a shy small-town kid to suddenly land in the full glare of the media. They don't tell what it was like when the agent he regarded as a brother betrayed him and left him in financial ruin. They don't tell what he thinks of the game of hockey today. Now he breaks his silence in a memoir as unique as the man himself...Includes photographs

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A "This is a book more about a man than about a hockey player...Epic and noble. A •The Atlantic A "A must-read for anyone...who fondly remembers the glory years of the Big Bad Bruins. A •The Sun Chronicle A "[Orr] wrote the book A as if he were coaching both his sport and society, delivering lessons in honor and responsibility while he examines hockey at its best and worst. A •A •The Boston Globe A "A gripping personal record: tracing the arc from stunning rookie phenom to defeated hero. The story is moving. It A •A •A •Winnipeg Free Press

Bobby Orr played for the Boston Bruins from 1966 to 1976, and then two more years for the

Chicago Blackhawks. Among other records and honors, he remains the only defenseman to win the Art Ross Trophy league scoring title twice and he still holds the record for most points and assists at that position. He also won a record eight consecutive Norris Trophies as the NHL's best defenseman, and three consecutive Hart Trophies as the league's MVP, as well as two Conn Smythe Trophies as the Stanley Cup MVP. Orr was the youngest living player to be inducted in the Hockey Hall of Fame, at thirty-one.

How did you spend New Year's Day? I spent mine reading this book in its entirety. I had a difficult time putting it down and I wouldn't know a blue line from a clothes line. Of course I'm aware that Bobby Orr played hockey for the Boston Bruins but this is a book for both players and parents of any sport their child participates in. Bobby Orr does not emphasize his numerous accomplishments in hockey. In fact his greatest memory of the sport is the time he spent playing the game as a child on rinks near his home at Parry Sound, Ontario. Tennyson once wrote, "I am a part of all that I have met" and Bobby Orr spends a great deal of time in recognizing those who helped him from the time he was a child throughout his career at a professional hockey player. He realizes that what we accomplish we don't do on our own without the help of significant others along the way. Orr concludes the book by giving his opinions on the state of the game today and mentions suggested rule changes he would make and the reasons for them. Included also is suggested practical advice for up-and-coming hockey players and questions they should ask themselves if they plan on continuing their dream on playing in the National Hockey League. I am not a hockey fan but for those who have children in any sport I would highly recommend this book to be read by both parents and children. I also found it refreshing in that there are no profanities in the book. Hockey fan or not this book is must reading for the reasons I mention above.

Over 30 years after he left hockey, Bobby Orr finally tells his story. If you know anything about the man, it was no surprise that he refrained from writing about himself for so long: he is the polar opposite of today's arrogant, self-promoting athlete eager to tell the world how great he is (or thinks he is); a humble, classy guy if there ever was one. And though he has now relented - after DECADES of self-imposed obscurity and silence - to write this book, don't expect any salacious stories of the Big Bad Bruins off the ice or passages about Orr's great feats on the ice: this is a straight-forward account of Robert Gordon Orr's life, as written by himself, with his usual modesty and discretion. Not that this makes for a boring, just-the-facts, life story: it is, in fact, an engaging and fluid read, and interesting as hell. Well, to ME this is incredibly interesting stuff; whether or not you

are a hockey fan, a Bruins fan, and/or a Bobby Orr fan will obviously impact your level of interest. As a lifelong hockey/Bruins/Orr fan who was 9 when Orr scored the 1970 overtime goal and who lived in a seaside town in Boston Harbor where several Bruins players lived (Doug Roberts lived a few houses away from me and I met many of the Bruins - but NOT Orr), I obviously have a higher level of interest. But the book is, in fact, lively and entertaining throughout, even for the casual reader. To a fan, it is so much more: because Orr never talked or wrote about himself previously (his two books in the 1970s were about hockey, the game, not about him), we had only a vague notion of his history. An entire 309-page book about Bobby Orr's life? Thank you, God. From his childhood in Parry Sound, Ontario, where he delighted in the game of hockey at age 5 onwards, to his incredible teen years in Juniors (he signed his first pro hockey contract at age 14 and the contract stipulated - believe it or not - that his parents' house be stuccoed), to his debut in Boston at the age of 18 (as the highest-paid player in NHL history before he played even one NHL game), through the glory years, the bad knees, and then life after hockey (he was only 30 when it all ended), there are stories that even an Orr fan will be surprised by. Though this is a mostly upbeat life story, there was darkness, aside from the bad knees and early end of his career: his agent since his youth, Alan Eagleson, not only stole a great deal of money from Orr but also stole Orr's Boston legacy as well. Every true Bruins and Bobby Orr fan remembers the dark day in 1976 when Orr - the very heart of the Bruins - signed with Chicago because he felt Boston was insulting him with their low offer. What no one knew - including Bobby Orr himself - was that the Bruins wanted so desperately to keep him that they offered partial ownership of the franchise in addition to their money offer. Eagleson hid this fact from Orr. But for the sleaziness of Alan Eagleson, Bobby Orr would have been a Bruin to the end. I highly recommend the book to fans and the casual reader alike: this is a sports legend - considered by many as the greatest hockey player of all time - who is a genuinely nice guy, humble and modest, and his life story should be required reading for all young phenoms on the verge of turning pro. Act like THIS guy, not like all the others. As a book dealer and Top 500 Reviewer, I am offered advance copies on a daily basis and hardly ever accept them. I read what I want to read. However, in this case, I desperately sought out an advance copy and got one. The review would be exactly the same had I paid for a copy.

Anyone who is a lifelong Boston Bruins fan from back in the day, or anyone who genuinely loves hockey, will be happy reading anything about Bobby Orr - especially when it comes from his own mouth, which was very rare indeed. As a player, he stood head and shoulders above everyone else - including Hull, Howe and Gretzky...and they ALL admitted it. As a person, he again stands head

and shoulders above everyone else. Orr was a gentleman in every sense of the word and exemplified what a "superstar" should be. If you have kids, you should read this book as he has some very good examples of what to include in raising a kid...Bottom line, this book is everything you'd want from Bobby Orr.

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