



Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf

By John Updike

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John Updike wrote about the lure of golf for five decades, from the first time he teed off at the age of twenty-five until his final rounds at the age of seventy-six. *Golf Dreams* collects the most memorable of his golf pieces, high-spirited evidence of his learning, playing, and living for the game. The camaraderie of golf, the perils of its present boom, how to relate to caddies, and how to manage short putts are among the topics he addresses, sometimes in lyrical essays, sometimes in light verse, sometimes in wickedly comic fiction. All thirty pieces have the lilt of a love song, and the crispness of a firm chip stiff to the pin.

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Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf By John Updike Bibliography

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Download and Read Free Online *Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf* By John Updike

Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

How lucky can an editor be? When legendary *New Yorker* editor William Shawn wanted a writer to review a book on golf, he could turn to novelist John Updike. Updike, a devoted golfer, was delighted to take on the assignment. That review of Michael Murphy's *Golf In the Kingdom* is contained -- along with essays from *Golf Digest*, *The New York Times Book Review* and other publications -- in **Golf Dreams**. Rounding out the collection of 30 pieces are excerpts from Updike's classic fiction, including *Three Rounds With Rabbit Angstrom*.

From Publishers Weekly

In his preface to this volume of essays and short fiction, longtime golfer Updike speculates that his addiction to the sport has "stolen my life away." But this collection of pieces written between 1959 and 1995 illustrates that, even if his swing has become less supple, his ruminations on the game retain their vitality. As he addresses the frustrations, humiliations and rare "soaring grandeur" of the game, Updike's dry wit and ironic insight enliven such entries as a spoof on instruction books and an evaluation of viewing golf on TV. Essays range in theme from the specific ("The Big Bad Boom") to the ethical (the moral imperatives of "The Gimme Game") to the philosophical: "Many men are more faithful to their golf partners than to their wives." Generally, those pieces written originally for sports magazines tend to contain more technical detail, while the three short stories and selections from three of the Rabbit novels illuminate how a day on the links can reveal character and the hand of destiny. If there is a general theme, it is that golf can be both a mystical experience and infernal torture, what Updike calls "the bliss and aggravation of the sport." Diehard aficionados will find all of this collection entertaining and meaningful; and even duffers will appreciate Updike's lucid prose and command of metaphor. Christmas sales seem assured here, with a resurgence for Father's Day next year. 75,000 first printing; simultaneous Random House audio.

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From Library Journal

Updike recounts his love affair with golf, which he began playing at age 25, through 30 pieces that originally appeared in magazines and novels. His method is to present stories or episodes interspersed with interpretation. In a short story culled from the novel *Rabbit, Run* (1960), Harry Angstrom is reintroduced to the game by the Reverend Jack Eccles, the role model of the story, who turns on Rabbit while they are playing golf: "The truth is, you're monstrously selfish. You're a coward. You don't care about right or wrong." Older duffers will also enjoy Updike's observations on golf etiquette, or lack thereof, from today's younger players, who "scoot around in their carts whacking divots the size of beach towels... and never think to replace one." Updike's book, though it provides apt and insightful commentary and is often humorous, may at times be heavy going for the less literate golf reader. For sports and literature collections.

-?James A. Paxman, Tennessee State Univ., Nashville

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeremy Smith:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with good friends is thing that

usually you have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf, it is possible to enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Alicia Hendrickson:

This Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf is great e-book for you because the content which can be full of information for you who else always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it details accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read it hurriedly you can have whole facts in it. Doesn't mean it only provides you with straight forward sentences but challenging core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Golf Dreams: Writings on Golf in your hand like having the world in your arm, facts in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no guide that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this reserve already do that. So , this is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt that?

Audrey Patton:

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Travis Davis:

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