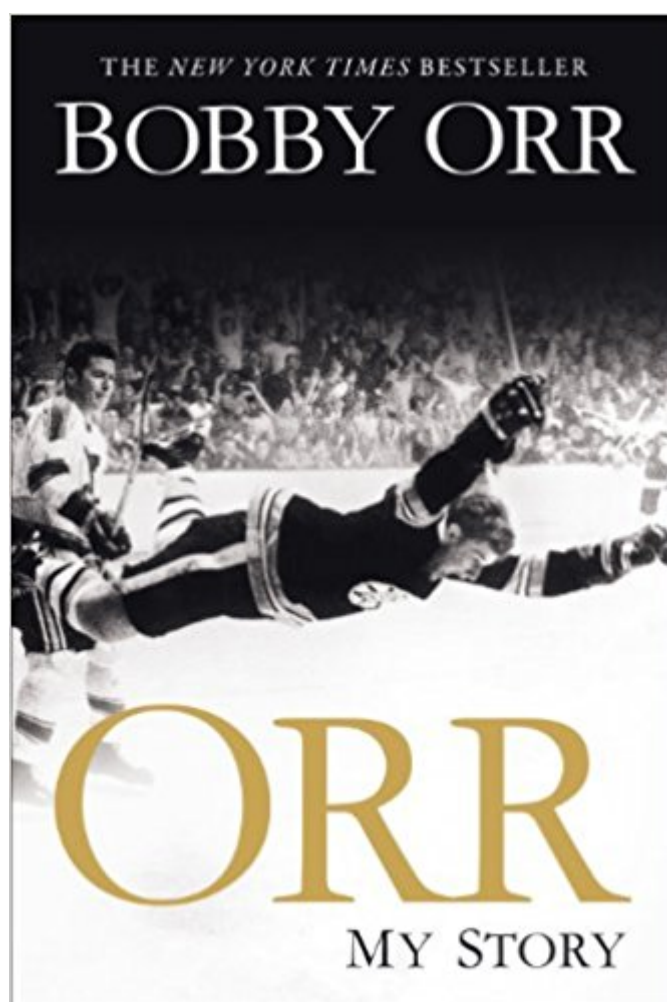


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Orr: My Story



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! 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

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Berkley; Reprint edition (October 7, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 042527702X

ISBN-13: 978-0425277027

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (370 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

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.

I'm glad that Bobby Orr decided to write this book, as so many Bruin fans have been waiting for it to happen. In typical Orr fashion, there is no juicy gossip or stories of wild, late night parties. Instead, he gives readers the story of his childhood and entire hockey career. Orr's grandfather emigrated from Ireland to Ontario, and that's where Bobby's life begins. Bobby was the middle child of five children, and money was tight. The floors in their Parry Sound home were uneven, and the house was always freezing in the winter. The Orr family only gathered in the living room once a year on Christmas Day, as they couldn't afford to heat that room the rest of the year. His happiest childhood memories are of playing hockey on the frozen lake with his friends. There would often be 20 kids on the ice, and it taught them how to handle the puck well. With no adult supervision, the boys also had to learn how to get along and make their own rules. When he joined the squirt league, his coach didn't have enough kids for each position. He ended up playing Bobby in different positions, and Orr feels that this really helped him become the hockey player the world came to know. Bobby thinks that hockey for young children should not be focused on winning. The kids should go out and have fun, and each child should get a chance to play so that they can develop their skills. There are also cute stories. Bobby's mother's choice of discipline was a broom. He talks about the time that she caught him smoking under a bridge near their house, and how she dragged him home by the arm. It was not pretty! He never smoked under that bridge again. We also hear about the sacrifices that players and their families make.

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