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Home Team: Coaching The Saints And New Orleans Back To Life



Synopsis

The New York Times bestseller that's "heaven in hardcover" (New Orleans Times-Picayune) for Saints fans. In the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, no symbol of disaster was more potent than New Orleans' Superdome: it became a horrific shelter of last resort where the utterly desperate rode out the storm. Four years later, in that very stadium, the New Orleans Saints won the NFC championship and earned their first-ever trip to the Super Bowl, where they defeated the favored Indianapolis Colts 31-17. This is the inspirational true story of a city recovering from disaster and a team with a history of heartbreak, as seen through the eyes of the coach who would help elevate them both to long-forgotten greatness.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Berkley; Reprint edition (August 2, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0451233379

ISBN-13: 978-0451233370

Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #425,029 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #117 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Coaching > Football (American) #154 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Atmospheric Sciences #271 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoors > Football

Customer Reviews

Sean Payton is the head coach of the Super Bowl Champion New Orleans Saints. Ellis Henican is a columnist for Newsday and an analyst on the Fox News Channel.

Before the book was released, Sean told an interviewer he wanted the book to read like someone got 5 hours with him at an airport bar when their planes are delayed. Mission accomplished. This is not your normal rah-rah coaching to win book. This is truly a behind-the-scenes, warts and all look at a team, and a city, in shambles that was taken to the pinnacle of success in 4 short years by a man who embraced the challenge of the circumstances and grew to love the city and their wildly loyal fan base- while that fan base grew to love and respect him and his team. An easy, fun, humorous and touching read - I highly recommend it!

This book really gets your emotions going, I already knew a lot of the stories, some were told in much greater detail, and some I just love hearing over and over again, but so much of this material was new to me. That was a big surprise. I am known on most forums as the SaintsJunkie and follow every story, training camp, game, radio, or tv show about the saints, not much gets by me. So when Sean Payton fills in the details and tells his story and it has new material to me, that is saying something and I really enjoyed reading it, but I also think anyone that likes a story told by a great story teller, then this is the book, you will love it. and you might learn a few things too. For example : how many light beers in does sean payton need to speak to Gov. Naggin? Less than me. loved this book, hope he writes one this season, and gets bully miller to do some locker room stories for the book as well.

This is the story of Sean Payton's rise to become the Super Bowl winning coach, but more significantly it's the story of the return of a great city from the worst Hurricane Katrina had to give. Equal treatment is given to the coach, the team, and the city, and they are woven together extremely well. It presents the city and the team we love and how they were both rebuilt, at least partially through a commitment from each of them to love the other, no matter what. I think it's a great book that belongs on the bookshelf of anyone who loves football, the Saints, and/or the City of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.

I'm from New Orleans, so the book and event had special meaning (did we REALLY win the Super Bowl?). But more objectively, the book was very easy to read, and Sean Peyton offers fun insights into various events during his tenure in New Orleans. These are not the kinds of stories you read about in the newspaper. Some of his events and experiences were good and some were bad, but they were all told honestly and sincerely, and in a very interesting manner. He talks about going out with his fellow coaches and the various motivational techniques he's used to get his teams ready to play. Sean Peyton comes across as an honest, down-to-earth guy - one I'd like to sit down and have a beer with.

WHODAT!!

I purchased this book for my son as a Christmas gift to go along with a jersey and other Saints memorabilia. He was so excited that he began reading it the day after Christmas, and absolutely

loves it. I was so pleased to find it in perfect condition and at a steal of a deal. We are absolutely delighted, Thanks !If you are a Saints fan or love New Orleans, this is a must read.

I read this book right after finishing Drew's bestseller thinking it would probably be just a rehash of the same information. I highly recommend reading both! Where Drew made me smile and cry at the many poignant moments in his version, Sean made me laugh outloud. And they both made me feel so proud to be a Saints fan. I lived through Katrina and appreciated their decisions to represent us in spite of our town being so miserably down and out. It is one of the best underdog stories of all time and begs to be made into a mini-series or movie.

Full disclosure - I've been a fan of the NFL and a fan of the NO Saints for all 43 years of their existence. But even if I were not, I would have absolutely loved this book. In an interview, Sean Payton said that this book was the literary equivalent of sitting with him in an airport bar and this would be the resulting 5 hour or so discussion while waiting for a delayed flight. He is right. The book is Sean Payton telling his story and the story of the Saints and their City. It is at once wonderful and enlightening. Through his eyes you see the unique City of New Orleans, the people of the City and how the team and the City interact. Nowhere else does a city and a professional sports franchise have this kind of symbiotic relationship and that relationship is hard to fathom for those who haven't seen it first hand. Still Payton and his author, Ellis Henican manage to create a clear and lucid portrait of these 2 entities. This is truly a wonderful book. You do not need to be a Saints fan or even a football fan to get a lot out of it. It speaks of people, of motivation, of desire, of love and of fortitude. This is not intended to be a motivational tome, but just observing Payton and the City through his eyes and words, you can't help but be moved and even motivated.

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