



Faster than Lightning: My Autobiography

Usain Bolt

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The autobiography of the fastest man of all time and a superstar whose talent and charisma have made him one of the most famous people on the planet.

Whether you know Athletics or not, and even whether you know sport or not, chances are you know Usain Bolt. The fastest man on the planet, not just now but ever, Usain has won the hearts of people everywhere with his mind-blowing performances and his infectious charisma – uniting supporters around the world. In this, his full autobiography, Usain tells his story in his own words: from humble beginnings in Jamaica, to international stardom at Beijing and on to the new heights of superstardom he has reached since lighting up London 2012.

Full of the charm and charisma that has made him the most popular sporting figure of our time and a universal celebrity, this is a book that Usain's millions of fans will love.

Faster than Lightning: My Autobiography Details

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From Reader Review Faster than Lightning: My Autobiography for online ebook

Muthu Raj says

There is a certain audacity in the way Bolt asserts himself in this biography. I have met some people in my life that are at/near the absolute top of their fields and in a way, they are too humble. When we start to embark on a journey to attain that skill level, we sometimes miss out on the humility. Then there is this rushing towards an excess of it, as our extraordinary lump of tissue sitting atop our neck decides that some failures along the way are due to our lack of humility. While humility or the lack of it can substantially alter our progress in the learning, all other things being equal, humility as is practiced in the post modern world might be disposable. Or that's what Bolt will convince you of. There is a certainty with which he asserts his dominance. He is unapologetic about the fact that he has special talent. He is not overtly humble. He just sails through life with an air of self assuredness. It is perhaps easy to mistake the pain behind this way. He after all, speaks very little of such pain. This is not a must read, but your idea towards the relation between humility, talent and self assertion will definitely change if you do read it.

Indrani Sen says

The man is a legend. Somehow the book is not. The book is well enough. No offence to his fans.

Harshad Udayakumar says

Faster Than Lightning is a wonderful book and is beautifully written by the world's fastest man. It involves all the elements that a fantastic book needs. This is the first autobiography that I read and I thoroughly enjoyed reading this. Usain Bolt explains each and every phase of his life in detail without missing any highlighting element. People who watch Bolt race may think that he is a kind of party guy who loves entertainment a lot and enjoys and works less. But if you go through this you'll be amazed. He's given his heart out to running and has worked a lot. If you start this book you'll never put it down because each and every page has got something amazing, wonderful and thrilling. You'll be inspired by reading this because he speaks about dreams and how to conquer them and stuff like that. This book is a magnificent read to any book lover and is a total treat to sports lovers. I think this book has changed a lot in me in terms of good ways. And I have to tell you something Bolt also tells us how authorities conduct doping test and how strange the process is and stuff like that. As you almost complete the book, Bolt speaks about his future his plans for the 2016 Rio Olympics and his life and things like that. Truly Bolt is a great man and a high achiever.

Billy Ram says

The Ricochet went off and the lightning stricken.

Usain Bolt came to life. His legs strong as iron and swift as any man can be. "What a Champion, He is a Legend", were the words of the commentator as Bolt celebrated his last 100m gold at the Rio Olympics.

With every stride he took that day, he came close to what he is now, a legend. But the best part of his life, the most important to me right now is to know he was not born a legend. Reading about someone who has dominated his game for three straight Olympics, winning a total of 9 gold medals at the olympics. Can very much intimidate anyone. But his story is different.

His story is a story of a rural boy. Who played, worked, partied, was not always wise, was not all knowing. But, was discerning and ready to change himself.

Who after all his injuries and exhausting training schedule, went out there to train and get in the proper shape for the big day.

The biography is well written. You can connect with him asif you were present there. There is no false praise, there is no trying to be what he wasn't. It's just a plain account of what happened and how his journey took place and how he reasoned with his carriers choices and that is what makes this autobiography a great read.

The autobiography has the amount till 2013. Do watch his documentary "I am Bolt" which accounts till his last Olympic race 2016.

Aishwarya says

????????? 5 STARS

Could i give more than 5 stars because this book is just INCREDIBLE.I borrowed this from the library and now I want to own my own copy.I am not a huge fan of autobiographies and the only other one which I personally loved was Malala's.This book had my attention from the start.Mr.Usain sure knows how to start off with a bang (pun intended)! Each and every page is just oozing with confidence,attitude,humility,humour and dedication.There is not a single moment where I was bored.He describes his Journey beautifully and I always felt like I was the one who was on the track the whole time.He teaches you so many valuable life lessons and how talent will take you to the door but hard work will get you to the top.I absolutely adore his attitude.Because I read this book,I've become a huge fan and I can't wait to see him repeat history in the 2016 Olympic.if there is a man on the planet who can do it,It's USAIN BOLT.He has become a huge inspiration for me and I hope to meet him one day!

TO DI WORLD USAIN♥?

Abhilash Ruhela says

"Believe me, my time isn't up just yet"- That's how one of the epic autobiographies has just ended. Usain Bolt's autobiography named "Faster than Lightning" is another biography by a sportsman that I loved after Brett Lee's. While Brett Lee's was published by Random House, this one is published by none other than HarperCollins's print- Harper Sports. They have some amazing names in their autobiography section and I am happy that I picked up this book initially to start with. According to my memory, this is the 3rd book from HarperCollins that I have read and I have liked almost all of them till now. Surely, a publisher I will look forward every time I am ordering books online. More than authors, its time we start looking up at which

publisher has published a specific book. Because authors can lose their form in one or two but publisher always maintain their quality. Even the publishing quality of HarperCollins is wonderful; their book can stay intact for years.

About the Book:-

Whether you know athletics or not and even whether you know sport or not, chances are you know Usain Bolt. The fastest man on the planet, not just now but ever, Usain has won the hearts of people everywhere with his mind-blowing performances and his infectious charisma uniting supporters around the world.

In this, his full autobiography, Usain tells his story in his own words: from humble beginnings in Jamaica, to international stardom at Beijing and on to the new heights of superstardom he has reached since lighting up London 2012. Full of the charm and charisma that has made him the most popular sporting figure of our time and a universal celebrity, this is a book that Usain's millions of fans will love.

About the Author:-

Usain Bolt is a Jamaican sprinter widely regarded as the fastest person ever. He is the first man to hold both the 100 metres and 200 metres world records since 1977. Along with his team-mates, he also set the world record in the 4 x 100 metres relay. He is the reigning Olympic champion in these three events, the first man to win 6 Olympic gold medals in sprinting and a five time World champion. He was the first to achieve a 'double double' by winning 100m and 200m titles at consecutive Olympics (2008 and 2012) and topped this through the first "double triple" (including 4x100m relays). His 2009 record breaking margin for 100 m, from 9.69 (his own previous world record) to 9.58, is the highest since records began.

Coming to the review, I must say that this has been one of the best autobiographies of all time. The best thing is that Usain didn't try to show that he is someone who sees his records as another number or time but he acknowledges each and every success that he has achieved. The way he has described each and every victory of his shows how much he is enjoying the grand success that he has achieved. He even clears in the 2nd half of the book that he doesn't know even the history of athletics down 1980s or even 90s. This honesty has worked out quite well with this novel. He even calls himself "Living Legend" and "Legend" most of the times which pissed me off because we know it buddy and that is why we are purchasing your book to know how you became a phenomenon in this sports and in Olympics but that's what shows the honesty he has shown while scripting his life.

The best part has been that Usain Bolt shows he's a normal arrogant guy and no born legend. He also keeps stating that he won his initial matches just on the raw talent and speed he had. It was only after his coach started pissing him off by asking to train regularly that he became physically and technically strong regarding the game. It has been fun reading about his initial successes. I also loved the way Bolt's father disciplined him and made him a down-to-earth man. After he loses one of the races, I loved the way he knocked his coach's door late night and asked him what was happening wrong with him. His narration and story-telling skill of breaking record and running 100 meters in just 9.72 seconds made me jump. His rivalry with 2-3 competitors at different levels is also wonderfully talked off. His high regards for Blake, the fellow Jamaican and later on, hating him for a moment is another beautiful part of this book. His love for his coach is also clearly visible in this book. He even stated that he initially raced for money it was later that he started doing it for himself and others.

Well, I should stop here or else I'll end up reviewing each and every sentence of the book because it's totally fun. I would give this book rating of 4.75 out of 5.

Thanks.

ABHILASH RUHELA - VEERU!!!

Diego Calderon says

My name is Diego Calderon and i chose 5 stars for this book called Faster than Lightning because it is a deep story and also very inspirational. I enjoy reading about amazing athletes an Usain Bolt is one of my favorite athletes. Reading about he's career and he's very detailed life and accomplishments was very touching for me.

My heroes journey is related 100% to this story, I do track and field and do the same events Usain Bolt does and I dedicate a lot just like him. Usain Bolt is an athlete who works so hard every day and had to give up some things and leave some things behind but that is what lead him to were he is right now. I dedicate myself everyday just like him, I have had to leave some things behind, even change school in order to accomplish my track & field.

I recommend this book to people who want to push themselves and succeed in life, specially athletes. For athletes who dedicate every day and push there selves harder every day and sacrifice things in order to be the best, this book is the best one you can read. Reading this book I think for athletes will have a very huge impact on, for athletes that do track & field especially.

My favorite quote about this book is “You have to set yourself goals so you can push yourself harder. Desire is the key to success.” I love this quote so much, I liked other quotes in the book but this one was my favorite because I go through that every single day. When I wake up I set my goals for the day, my times for training and the time I need to beet, I put it in my head and in training I put everything I got no matter how tired I am I push myself to my limits. Wanting to to things is what leads you to success, if you are not passionate and dedicated into what you are doing you are never going to reach you maximum.

Español

Mi nombre es Diego Calderón y yo eleji 5 estrellas para este libro que se llama Más rápido que el relámpago, ya que es una historia profunda y también muy inspiradora. Me gusta leer sobre los atletas increíbles. Usain Bolt es uno de mis atletas favoritos. Al leer sobre su de carrera y su vida que es muy detallada y ver todos los logros fue muy emocionante para mí.

Mi viaje de héroe se relaciona con el 100% de esta historia, yo hago atletismo y los mismos eventos que Usain Bolt hace y se lo dedico mucho al igual que él. Usain Bolt es un atleta que trabaja tan duro todos los días y tuvo que renunciar a algunas cosas y dejar algunas cosas atrás, pero eso es lo que lo llevó a como es en este momento. Me dedico todos los días al igual que él, he tenido que dejar algunas cosas atrás, incluso cambiar la escuela con el fin de cumplir lo que quiero en atletismo.

Recomiendo este libro a las personas que quieren empujarse a sí mismos y tener éxito en la vida, especialmente los atletas. Para los atletas que se dedican todos los días y se empujan a ellos mismos lo cual es más difícil cada día y las cosas de sacrificio con el fin de ser el mejor no son faciles, este libro es el mejor que usted puede leer. La lectura de este libro creo que para los atletas tendrá un impacto muy grande, especialmente en los atletas que hacen atletismo.

Mi cita favorita de este libro es "Hay que fijarse objetivos para que pueda uno empujarse mas difícil". El deseo es la clave del éxito. "Me encanta esta cita tanto, me ha gustado otras citas en el libro, pero este era mi favorito porque voy por la que diariamente. Cuando me despierto me puse mis metas para el día, mis tiempos para la formación y el tiempo que necesito de remolacha, lo pongo en mi cabeza y en la formación que ponen todo lo que tengo, no importa lo cansado que estoy me empuje a mis límites . Querer a las cosas es lo que conduce al éxito, si usted no es apasionado y dedicado en lo que está haciendo usted nunca va a llegar a usted el máximo.

Kenri Tops says

Väga kaasahaarav raamat. Lugesin ühe jutiga läbi.

Mika Auramo says

Usain Boltin (tähänastinen) elämäkerta oli mielenkiintoista ja mukaansa tempaavaa luettavaa. Olin aiemmin nähty tästä juoksijalegendasta kertovan dokumenttielokuvan ja nyt aloitin illalla kirjan ja luin seuraavana aamuna loppuun.

Kerronta on tavanomaista muistelua lapsuudesta Cherwood Contentin pikkukylässä Jamaikalla aina vuoteen 2013 saakka menestyksen huipulle. Kuitenkin Boltin rennon letkeä ote välittyy myös käänöksessä varsin hyvin. Lukuja on yhteensä kuusitoista, ja ensimmäinen alkaa dramaattisesti auto-onnettomuudesta vuonna 2009, jolloin kaara meni rusinaksi, ja kuin ihmeen kaupalla Bolt selviytyi vain muutamalla ruhjeella.

Palataan alakouluun ja Usainin alkuinnostukseen. Kun Brasiliassa jalkapallo on ykköslaji, Jamaikalla se on yleisurheilu. Opettaja lahjoo palkinnolla pikkupoikaa juoksukisoihin, ja hän voittaakin. Siitä alkaa kiinnostuminen juoksua kohtaan, ja pian katsotaankin olympiasankareita, ja on aika haaveilla niin kuin pojilla on tapana. Kotona on kova kuri, ja kahvifirman esimiehenä toimivan isän opit muistivat mieleen vielä olympiavoittojen jälkeenkin: nöyryys ja vaativattonuus korostuvat. Äiti on ompelija, ja hän jää taka-alalle.

Ura lähtee nousuun koulukisojen voiton jälkeen neljätoistavuotiaana v. 2001. Seuraavana vuonna hän voittaa nuorten maailmanmestaruuden 200 metrillä. Valmentaja vaihtuu niin myös kotikylä Kingstoniin. Alkoi tehokkaampi valmennus, joka johti nuorten maailmanmestaruuteen 2004. Parin vuoden päästä Usain oli lopussa, selän skolioosi vaati spesiaalihoitoa Saksassa. Ateenan olympialaiset menivät pieleen, ja oli aika valmentajanvaihtoon parin vuoden päästä. Millsin otettua vastuu valmennuksesta vuodesta 2006 tähtääin asetettiin muutaman vuoden päähän, ja alkoi armoton ja määritietoinen treenaaminen maailman parhaaksi. Kuin sattuman kautta Usain otti 100 toiseksi pääläjikseen vältyykseen juoksemasta 400 metriä. Hän on pituudeltaan muita mittavampi (196 cm), eli lähtö on hitaampi, mutta satasella tarvitsee ottaa vain 41 askelta eli muutama vähemmän kuin muut vähän lyhyemmät huippujuoksiat.

Maailmanennätyksiä ja olympiavoittoja tulee useilta matkoilta niin Ateenassa kuin Lontoossa vuonna 2012, ja kirjan tapahtumat päätyvän Moskovan MM-kisojen jälkeiseen aikaan. Nöyryys korostuu, ja kunnon koutsin tavoin Mills piiskaa Usainin yhä parempiin suorituksiin. Olympiavoittokaan ei saa valmentajaa riemun kiljahduksiin, sillä amatöörimäinen heittäytyminen tuhosii mahdollisuuden samalla maailmanennätykseen.

Kirja keskittyy hyvin monen huippu-urheilijan urasta haaveilevan lukijan kannalta aivan perusasioihin eli siihen, mikä ajaa jatkuvasti ylittämään oman itsensä ja mikä motivoi kilpailijaa kehittymisessä. Boltilla se on armoton voittamisen halu ja häviämisen vihaaminen. Hän analysoi hyvin uran keskeisiä juoksuja, ja tempaa lukijan mukanaan radalle. Kirjasta välittyy hyvin mielikuva juoksijalegendasta, joka pitää jalat maassa ja jolla on myös oma tahto, eikä hän heittädy valmentajien, managerien ja muiden taustahahmojen ja uran keskeisin vaikuttajien sätkynukeksi. Hän tietää oman arvonsa, asemansa ja sen, että nyt on hänen aikansa - muutaman vuoden päästä jonkun muun. Silloin onkin aika vaihtaa lajia, ostaa uusi talo, ja äidille uusi pesukone.

Aakanksha says

Usain Bolt, I guess everyone heard his name once in their life. He is a living legend for many people and also known as the fastest man on Earth. It's his autobiography in which he told how he wins races and smashing records one by one. The untold truth of his life and his journey from teenage sensation to international superstar was very well described in this book.

Usain's home was Coxeath, a small village in Jamaica. He was a mommy's boy and hates to see her upset. His father was a traditional and very strict man. He believed in manners and respect all the times. Due to all his father teachings, Usain learns how to respect everyone even if they disrespect you. There are so many incidents from his childhood in this book which is well portrayed and his first coach was his family dog, Brownie. Since childhood Usain want to become a cricket player but destiny brought him to track. In school, he never took running seriously until he won few championship and got sports scholarship at William Knibb High School but after that, he started bunk his class and sessions which lead him to low grades and all the teachers and former Olympic sprinter Pablo McNeil tried to explain him the importance of training. Every athlete needs motivation and a good coach in Usain case money becomes his motivation and Coach Mills is the one responsible for making him a legend on the track. The more he wins the more he earns through advertisement. He was only 15 when he won CARIFTA games in Nassau and crowd suddenly started screaming, 'Lightning Bolt! Lightning Bolt!' and he got his nickname from there. After winning World Junior Championship he was flashing on everybody's radar but there were distractions too.

Every athlete has up and down in his career and deals with injuries. He also faces this even there was a moment when people started hating him because he loses. But he works hard and with determination or proper guidance of his coach he won a gold medal in 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. He set a new world record with a time of 9.69 seconds in 100 meters and show his signature pose. To know one's real aim is very important Usain learn this after his accident in 2009. But life is tricky and records are meant to be broken. There were other sprinters too who give tough competition to him like Tyson, Asafa, and Blake but Usain beat each one of them and make himself clear to the world that no one can beat him. He also won a gold medal in 100 meters race at 2012 London Olympics game.

At some point, he sounds arrogant or self-centered but I guess it's not completely true because he is a global phenomenon and undisputed superstar athlete. But media and other athletes time to time question his ability to win. Usain proved them wrong by winning so many titles. There were so many people behind his success. There was some insight information on a player's life and how they overcome fear and prove themselves to the world. This is one of my favorite autobiographies till date. I know his fans will definitely read this because it's really good to know the life story of a living legend and I would recommend this to everyone.

Dane Collins says

A great easy to read autobiography that traces the life to date of the fastest man to have walked (or ran) this earth.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book as being a sprinter myself I could relate to many aspects of his personal story. Any lover of the sport will appreciate the commitment and dedication that Usain has expressed over his long reign at the top. He has done wonders for the sport due to his lively personality and off track performances. Before reading the book I had the impression that Usain would be very arrogant, as this was my poor interpretation of watching him before his races and how he stays calm and collected. The book puts his attitude into perspective, and he doesn't come across at all arrogant.

In regards to how the book is written, its very easy to follow and written in a manner that caters for all audiences, either young or old, familiar or non familiar with the sport.

The only downside to the book is that it was written before his career has finished. This may have been intentional however I would like to read Usains take on his success or failure at winning gold medals three back to back olympics. Hopefully an updated edition will be released post the 2016 olympics in Brazil.

Good luck Usain, ill be rooting for you :)

Willy Akhdes says

Reading a biography or memoir is perceiving the other world. Also, it gives you another perspective to see same environment from different angle. It's an inspirational writings from a legend. He's channeling much energy into my soul when I read his extraordinary effort to achieve his dreams.

Avishek Bhattacharjee says

This book is all about confidence and self belief. A must read for all who loves to dream..who wants to make it big in their life. One of the best sports autobiographies I have ever read(Obviously after Open-Andre Agassi). This book uses the opportunity to show the author the fastest man on earth not so much as "Lightning Bolt", the man of confidence and swagger, but at the same time scared that on any given day age, injury or the new breed of athletic talent can take away what he has fought for, and this is the best part of this book-so human of the extraordinaire

The tactics, the rivalry and the brotherhood display before us a different world of Track and field. In this time of 20-20 Cricket and Messi-Ronaldo, the world of athletics is still unknown to most of us. The tremendous back the curtain effort, year long practice, pain and agony gives that 10 seconds glory. This book is a perfect example of Jamaican life-style and their eagerness to remain in top of track and field department(specially sprints).

As he says:

"I live for the big moment..
Give me a big stage and i come alive"

Brian Stump says

This book was a fantastic read! I enjoyed every part of this book. His struggles were so detailed. I enjoyed this book and I hope he writes more

Abraham Mathew says

Decent book from a rather arrogant author.
