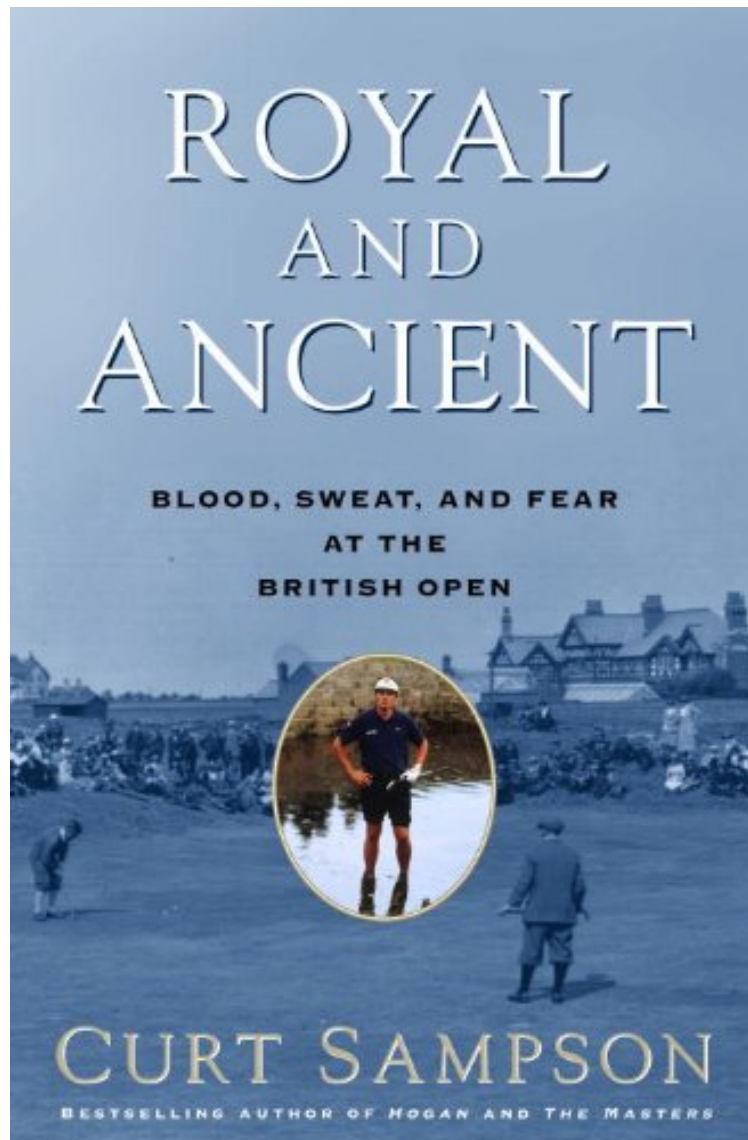


[Mobile library] Royal and Ancient: Blood, Sweat, and Fear at the British Open

Royal and Ancient: Blood, Sweat, and Fear at the British Open

Von Curt Sampson

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Von Curt Sampson : Royal and Ancient: Blood, Sweat, and Fear at the British Open before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Royal and Ancient: Blood, Sweat, and Fear at the British Open:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sampson's BestVon John StrawnOnly the very best writers can sustain drama when they're recounting events whose outcome is already well-known--and who isn't aware of Jean Van de Veld's slow-motion deflation on the final hole at

the 1999 British Open at Carnoustie, the culminating event in Curt Sampson's splendid new book, *Royal and Ancient?* Sampson's a wonderful phrase-maker-writing of Tiger's "adhesive gallery" is a good example-with an ample feeling for the game and the people who make it interesting, from the tournament players at the forefront to the deeply sequestered greenkeepers, such as Carnoustie's John Philp, who tried to defend the old links against the assaults of a generation of golf pros who regard birdies as a birthright. Sampson's written other good books, but this one is superb.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another wonderful book on one of the MajorsVon Ein KundeCurt Sampson has been my favorite golf writer for several years now, ever since *Hogan*, which was just about the best golf biography I've ever read. His next book, *The Masters*, was excellent too. This one is great--plenty of fascinating history of the most prestigious golf tournament ever, plus an account of last year's unbelievable Open, which may have been the toughest major ever played, with probably the most fantastic finish ever. Must reading for any golfer.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Sampson's Best YetVon R. LinksMr. Sampson has given the forest of golf literature some of its tallest timber, and *Royal Ancient* is one mighty Sequoia. He captures the tension, trauma, triumph and tragedy of a major championship as no one before him. If you enjoyed *The Eternal Summer*, *Hogan* and *The Masters*, you will positively LOVE *Royal Ancient*.

KurzbeschreibungFor a century and a half, the best golf players in the world have, once a year, attempted to beat the weather, the pressure, and one of the toughest courses in the world at the British Open. In *Royal and Ancient*, Curt Sampson, the bestselling author of *Hogan* and *The Masters*, draws a definitive and affectionate portrait of this legendary tournament, with a fascinating narrative of both its rich history and its exciting present. The thread of *Royal and Ancient* is the 1999 championship--the most astonishing four days in British Open history. Sampson follows individual players as they meet the gut-wrenching challenge of the links at Carnoustie: the icy classicist, Steve Elkington; the good-looking bon vivant, Andrew Magee; the struggling hopeful, Clark Dennis; Zane Scotland, the youngest Open qualifier in history. Sampson is there for Jean Van de Velde's dramatic collapse on the final day, probing both Van de Velde and his caddie for their emotional insights. He gets inside the heads of stars and journeymen, caddies and groundskeepers, and shows how they prepare and how they think as the tournament progresses, from the qualifying rounds to the practice sessions, all the way through the play-off on the final day. Beyond his excellent reportage, Curt Sampson captures British Open history as it's never been captured before. With an insider's knowledge and expertise, he draws us into the rarefied atmosphere of tradition and myth, telling the amazing--and sometimes heartbreaking--stories of past champions, of triumphs and tragedies, of deaths and ghosts. We hear the unexpectedly poignant story of one of the early greats, Tommy Morris, the invincible champion of the 1860s and 1870s, and explore the loyal Scottish fascination with the legendary Ben Hogan. The reminiscences of past and current participants combine with the behind-the-scenes stories of everyone from the club superintendent to the local pub owners to give an intimate look at this unique tournament. In his book *The Majors*, John Feinstein called Curt Sampson's *The Masters* the best book ever written about that Augusta event. Now, in *Royal and Ancient*, Sampson cracks the inner circle of another remarkable major to provide this fascinating and truly all-embracing view of the British Open. From the Hardcover edition..deNo one who saw it will likely forget French golfer Jean Van de Velde's catastrophe at Carnoustie on the 72nd hole of the 1999 British Open. "Such theater!" writes Ben Hogan biographer Curt Sampson in *Royal and Ancient*, his stunning chronicle of the event. "Character is destiny, the ancient Greeks believed. And to many people--at Carnoustie and elsewhere, then and now--Van de Velde's unfolding disaster looked like an unmistakable expression of French style: cavalier, ironic, and more concerned with style than substance. He seemed to be treating the beloved Jug like a chamber pot." In one golf hole, what had been a tour de force devolved into a tour de farce. What writer could ask for more? Not Sampson, who deftly uses Carnoustie as a prism to refract the history of golf's most storied tournament. Weaving back and forth through time, *Royal and Ancient* links the 1999 champion--playoff winner Paul Lawrie--to champions past, from the first--Willie Park in 1860--to Bobby Jones, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, and to those such as Ben Hogan, Gary Player, and Tom Watson who've conquered the wind-wracked Carnoustie track before him. In his detailed recounting of '99 affair, Sampson certainly reports on the shots, but goes well beyond them into the minds of such competitors as veteran Steve Elkington; Zane Scotland, the youngest qualifier ever; and even John Philp, Carnoustie's proud, beleaguered superintendent, who constantly battled the elements and carping of the players and the press. Fittingly, the last word goes to Van de Velde, a fine golfer who chose the one moment the world was watching to come utterly undone. "It took a lot of bad luck for me to lose," he tells Sampson months after the tournament. "When I think about it now, I'm a little nostalgic.... It's not like I burn emotionally... but... I left more over there than I expected." Sampson brings it, and a good deal more, back for us. -- Jeff Silverman.comNo one who saw it will likely forget French golfer Jean Van de Velde's catastrophe at Carnoustie on the 72nd hole of the 1999 British Open. "Such theater!" writes Ben Hogan biographer Curt Sampson in *Royal and Ancient*, his stunning chronicle of the event. "Character is destiny, the ancient Greeks believed. And to many people--at Carnoustie and elsewhere, then and now--Van de Velde's unfolding disaster looked like an unmistakable expression

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