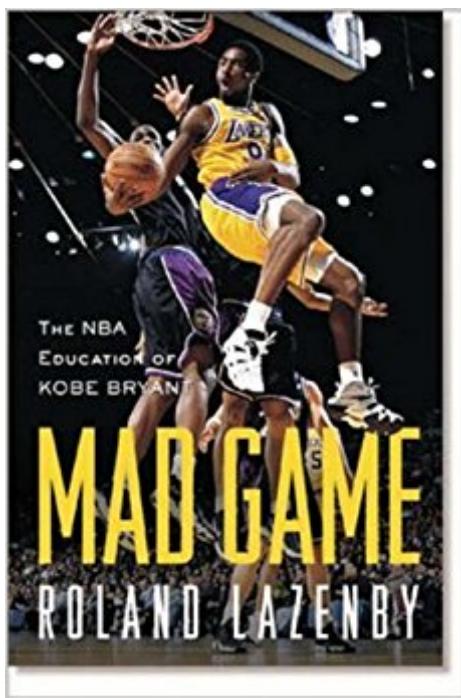


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# Mad Game : The NBA Education Of Kobe Bryant



## **Synopsis**

When Kobe Bryant joined the glitzy Los Angeles Lakers in 1996 right out of high school, he faced a wave of media hype that declared him the next Michael Jordan. Now a veteran of five NBA seasons at the age of 23, Bryant has earned a place among pro basketball's elite. *Mad Game* documents his hard lessons on the road to stardom, his rapid rise through the NBA, and his conflicts with--and, at times, alienation from--his teammates, including his on-and-off-again relationship with Shaquille O'Neal. This is a story of triumph, of an unusually gifted young athlete trying to remain true to himself and his game.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"...the writing is sharp, and it's clear Lazenby knows his stuff. "Mad Game" creates an image of a young player whose determination leaves him aloof, whose lack of a college experience deprives him of some necessary team skills and whose playground style frustrates his teammates." -- Washington Times"Subtitled The NBA Education of Kobe Bryant, the 313-page biography is proof that there is no such thing as a charmed life...Lazenby's book makes startlingly clear Bryant, 21, also is like you and me, tiptoeing around hostile co-workers and getting blamed for every little thing that goes wrong on the job and knowing at least one of the smiling faces he sees every day is trashing him behind his back." -- LA Daily News

Welcome to the world of Kobe Bryant, where expectations are huge but self-confidence is even greater. Already a veteran of three NBA seasons at age 21, he lives on the edge of his

testosterone-laced dreams. Totally obsessed, totally committed, totally talented; putting every part of himself into becoming the greatest and most dominant--what he and other young NBA players call The Man. In Mad Game, Roland Lazenby goes behind the scenes to explore Bryant's world, where the young star couples his iron will with enormous self-assurance to battle elements within the NBA that would force him to reshape his dreams. Brant left his Pennsylvania high school in 1996 as a 17-year old phenom to join the glitzy Los Angeles Lakers. Within months he faced a wave of media hype declaring him the next Michael Jordan. Mad Game is the story of how these circumstances propelled his rapid rise through the NBA, only to result in conflict with--and, ultimately, alienation from--his veteran teammates. A cautionary tale emerges from Bryant's hard lessons along the road to NBA stardom. Yet it's also a story of triumph, of a uniquely gifted young athlete trying to remain true to himself and the game.

Favorite basketball book of all time, gives wonderful insight into the young mind of one of the best players ever.

Great read.

Great book for all basketball players

this book is good. Not 4-5 star book but good. I would recommend this to any player who has work ethic. Kobe Bryant was noted a decent player but he worked so hard he became a legend

Great copy!

This book was okey. I am a big Lakers and Kobe fan but most of the storys in this book i know about and the Lazenby did talk to mutch about his Bulls people.

I read the book a little while back, and I thought it was a great read on the most electrifying basketball player today. At that time, Kobe was going through a lot of growing pains, a lot of failures, criticisms, bad chemistry with teammates. And now, this season, I've seen Kobe's maturation and improvement in the league, playing more under control, playing in Phil Jackson's triangle offense, having better rapport with Shaq and his teammates. His incredible performance in Game 4 of the NBA Finals in overtime was unforgettable and it is only the beginning. Now he is finally an NBA

champion with the Lakers, and hopefully, this will be the beginning of another great Laker dynasty, the first of the 21st century!

welcom to the world of kobe bryant this book is nomber 1 out of 2,865 books i have read (still counting) this book doesnt just tellyou about kobe it tells you about the whol lakers history and abot how other players reflect on kobe bryant like m.j. & magic Johnson I've read this book 3 times and i never get tierd of it i could tell you at least 5 things kobe has remarked of the top of my head I'm 11 years old & for me to type this much I'd have to love this book! & allso the author r. lazenby is supurb!

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