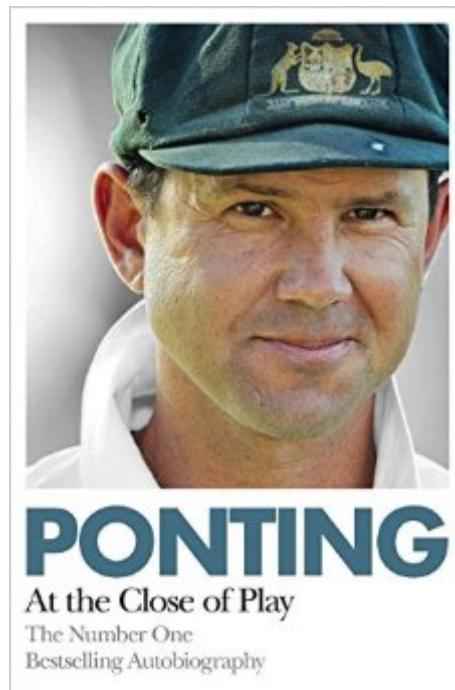


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Ponting: At The Close Of Play



Synopsis

The number 1 bestseller in paperback. One of the greatest cricketers of all time, Ricky Ponting boasts more records than any other player in Australian history including the most wins as a player and a captain, as well as being Australia's highest run-scorer in test and ODI cricket. From childhood prodigy to the highs and lows of an extraordinary international career, *At the Close of Play* is the remarkable autobiography of one of the game's greats. But beyond the triumphs and scandals, records and retirement, this is the story of a life lived in cricket and of a life shaped by extraordinary talent and the people who believed in that talent.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (41 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I'm a fan of Ricky Ponting's cricketing ability..not so much his writing. Some interesting history and insights. Perhaps not enough of the insights though..and his ghost writer could have done a bit better. *At the Close of Play* is OK, but not as interesting or as well written as some other bios. For cricket fans I'd recommend Michael Hussey's "Underneath the Southern Cross" and if you want a non sporting bio, then "Mao's Last Dancer" comes to mind as a fantastic read.

Great cricketer, and an interesting story. Just not a great book. As with Bouchers book was hoping for a little more on the cricket. Seems most cricketers follow the same template when writing their biographies.

Ricky Ponting is one of the best batsmen and crisp thinkers of the game. Through this book we get

to know his attitude and hunger towards playing and being on top of the game. You get to know why he did few of the things he did in his career and what mindset he comes from as an Australian cricketer. He was an extremely tough competitor and deep thinker when it comes to on-field planning. This book also gives you answers to why Australian team enjoyed a golden period under his captaincy. It will tell you what Ricky Ponting was made of and what he thought about other Australian players, other cricketing opponents and individual competitors. He's explained his perspective about many different controversies that he was a part of. No single chapter of the book is less exciting or dull and if you're someone who followed cricket since the 90's, you will love the mention of each tournament and you will relive that golden cricketing era. I finished reading this book just a day before Ricky played the All Stars Cricket game in NYC and I suddenly wanted to see more of him. I wanted to meet him and chat, but I guess that will have to wait. Thank you for your cricket service Ricky Ponting. A well written book this!

This book is hands down the most thorough and best biography i have read. Ricky is a great storyteller and reading his story put the reader in his shoes. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves autobiographies. A must read

Written extremely poorly. Battled through 25% of the book waiting for some interesting insights into the game. It was self absorbing and terribly dull. It was far more interesting watching him play. On reading the book he has lost his hero status.

When I started the book, I was bit disappointed. For a while, it seemed all about Australia, where even the great performances from the opponents hardly got a mention. However, after some time, I started liking it better. Ultimately, it was not only story of Ponting, but story of one of the best cricket team the world has ever seen - with some amazing characters like Mat Hayden, Langer, Shane Warne, McGrath and my all time favourite, Adam Gilchrist. Also, Ponting was very candid about his success and failure at the same time. Towards the close of play, more and more human side of Ricky Ponting comes to the fore and I had to once more say "Well played, Ricky".....

Loved hearing the stories and wisdom of leadership from an Aussie cricketing legend. His journey is well described from club cricket in Tasmania through to his Australian selection and then captaincy.

If you follow cricket this book is a good read about Ricky Ponting from his early days onwards until

his retirement. His determination to succeed is an interesting story and helps explain some of the controversial incidents he was involved with. I also enjoyed his relationships with other well known cricketers of his era. However at times the story tends to stagnate as he recalls every test and one day series he was involved in. All in all a good read and would recommend it.

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