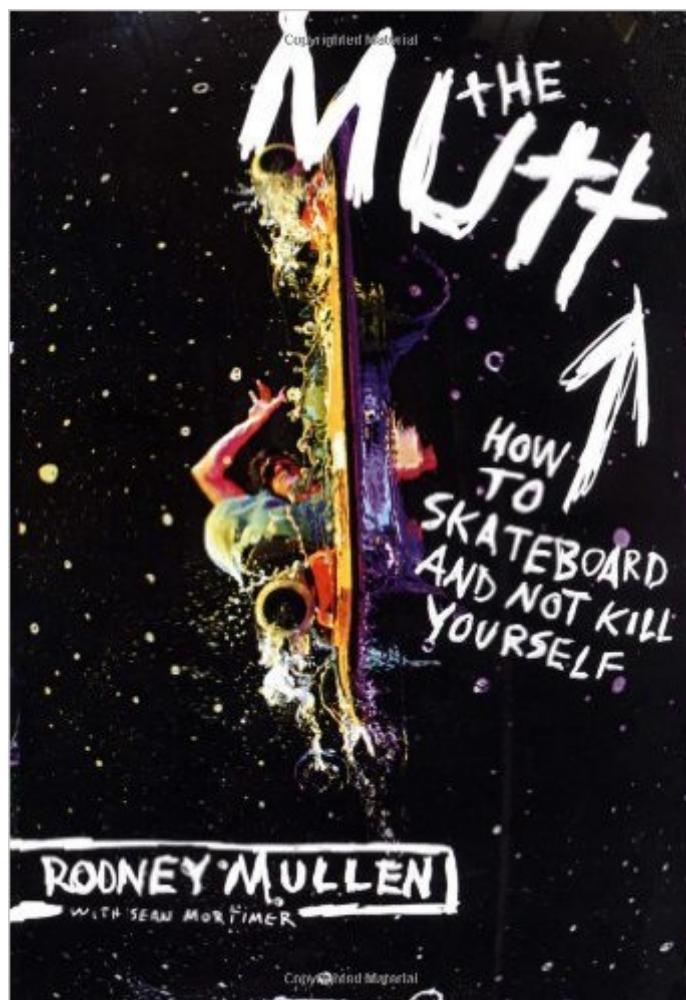


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# The Mutt: How To Skateboard And Not Kill Yourself



## **Synopsis**

At age six, Rodney Mullen was the family misfit who had to wear braces to straighten out his pigeon-toed feet. But by age fourteen, he was a world-champion skateboarder -- and for the next decade lost only one contest. Now, for the first time, Rodney tells the incredible story of his ascent to fame as the number one nerd in a sport where anarchy is often encouraged. Rodney learned to skate by himself on the family farm, his only company the wandering cows. As a teenager he traveled the world for demonstrations, invented the flatground ollie -- a trick that laid the foundation for modern street skating -- and in ten years garnered thirty-five world skating titles. While acing skateboard contests Rodney also earned straight A's in school, but his father forced him to abandon his fame and the fortune he could make from the sport he loved. Rodney was unable to stop for very long though, even after freestyle skating went out of fashion and the skateboarding world abandoned him. He adapted to street skating and eventually became one of the most innovative and influential skaters of all time. It's all here: everything from his eating and sleeping disorders to his comical experiences with loan sharks, occult-obsessed relatives, and the FBI. *The Mutt* is a look at Rodney's strange journey from penniless skateboarder to millionaire.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

What a great story. For those of you who don't know, Rodney Mullen is arguably the most influential and important skater in modern street skating. This story isn't so much about a misfit becoming one of the greatest skaters of all time, as it is about a person's struggle to win the respect and love of a demanding and intimidating father, who can't accept him for who he is. This is a sad, courageous,

and inspiring story that is most of all, a very human story. A very quick read that's hard to put down. There's not a boring page to be found.

The first time I saw Rodney Mullen was in 1986 at the University of Florida. I was between classes and, obviously Rodney was too. I was a skateboarder from 1976 to 1980 and had kept up with what was going on after that so, I knew who Rodney Mullen was. For about 30 minutes, I watched him do the most amazing tricks I had ever seen. He was skating by himself and I was the only one watching him. Now that I am 40, my 11 year old son is getting into skateboarding. I wondered, "Whatever happened to Rodney Mullen?" I found this book through a search for "Rodney Mullen" on . His story is very inspirational. I'm glad that he was able to find peace with his father and find happiness. I can't imagine anyone doing for skateboarding what Rodney Mullen has done.

The Mutt: How to Skateboard and Not Kill Your Self My name is Michael D., I am 14 years old and I've been riding skateboards since I was 7 years old. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes to read funny skateboarding stories and has a book report due. I liked how Rodney and his co-author broke the chapters up into different sections. The chapters are long but the section headers were funny which made me want to keep reading. Aspiring Plagiarist was one of my favorites. He wrote the story like he talks; it's not a dry instruction manual. Rodney Mullen was super honest about everything including a few illegal things. Rodney talked his dad into letting him skateboard. He waited till the right time to ask his dad for a skateboard. Rodney's dad was a surgeon and saw too many kids getting hurt skateboarding. Rodney promised to wear all of the safety equipment, and his dad said yes. Rodney and his family worked together to build a half-pipe so he could practice tricks at home. A few weeks later they had to tear it down after the neighbors complained about the noise. The surf shop his sister worked at sponsored Rodney. Instead of getting paid he got discounts at the shop for his skateboard. But at 13, that's pretty cool.

As a native Floridian it is cool to read about someone from Florida that has made a grave impact on the skateboarding world. I am a 11 year skater and have been a big fan of Rodney Mullen for a long time. This book should be on the shelves and coffee tables of every skater around the world.

I'm a skater and this book made me realize a lot of things about Rodney I didn't ever know. The main thing was about his father about how he always fights with him. Rodney is also like a super genius and a very religious guy. He is one of my favorite skaters and now this book had made me respect

his work ethic and ability to hold on even when it gets tough.

i am a skateboarder and i normally do not read books. the past week, i could not put down "mutt-how to skateboard and not kill yourself". this book grabbed a hold of me and did not let go. Rodney Mullen and Sean Mortimer have done a phenomonal job keeping the reader interested in this book that tells an amazing story of an amazing person.

This is the story of Rodney Mullen, the most important street/freestyle skater ever. In this book you read about his life, from his birth, to first skateboard, to winning the world championship in freestyle. You will also read about how he started four of the most known skate companies ever; Enjoi, Almost, World Industries, and Tensor Truck co.. Included in this book is his story of growing up with a father that made his children give up there favorite pass times to pursue the fathers dreams of growing up succesfully. This is, no doubt, the most important book on skaeting ever; From Rodney Mullen inventing the flat ground ollie (or just ollie) to making the 'magic flip' (kickflip) to then creating of 30 of todays most popular tricks.

I met Rodney Mullen once, on Go Skateboard Day in 2008. Heâ™s one of the most genuine people Iâ™ve ever encountered. I was so awestruck that I forgot to let go of the Almost Skateboard Deck Iâ™d asked him to autograph.I stood, clutching the deck like a kid refusing to relinquish his favorite toy, while Rodney gently pulled on it onceâ™ so he could sign it. But my fingers were frozen in place. That deck wasnâ™t going anywhere. Instead of getting in a tug-o-war or acting irritated at the difficulty my failure to release the deck caused him, Rodney just smiled, shifted his stance slightly, and autographed it anyway.When I read, âœThe Muttâ™ this January, I was amazed at the challenges Rodney has experienced and overcome throughout his life. Skateboarding is his passion, his obsession, and his lifeboat. It carried him through the storms of life and even caused a few along the way.Rodneyâ™s life is inspiring. I cried at times as I read about his relationship with his controlling and volatile father. I cheered when I discovered his personal victories. Most of all, Rodney Mullenâ™s story shows us how focusing on our passion can create unprecedented results in even the strangest circumstances.Roland Byrd author of Break Your Mold: The Art of Overcoming Patterns and Behaviors that Hold You Back

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