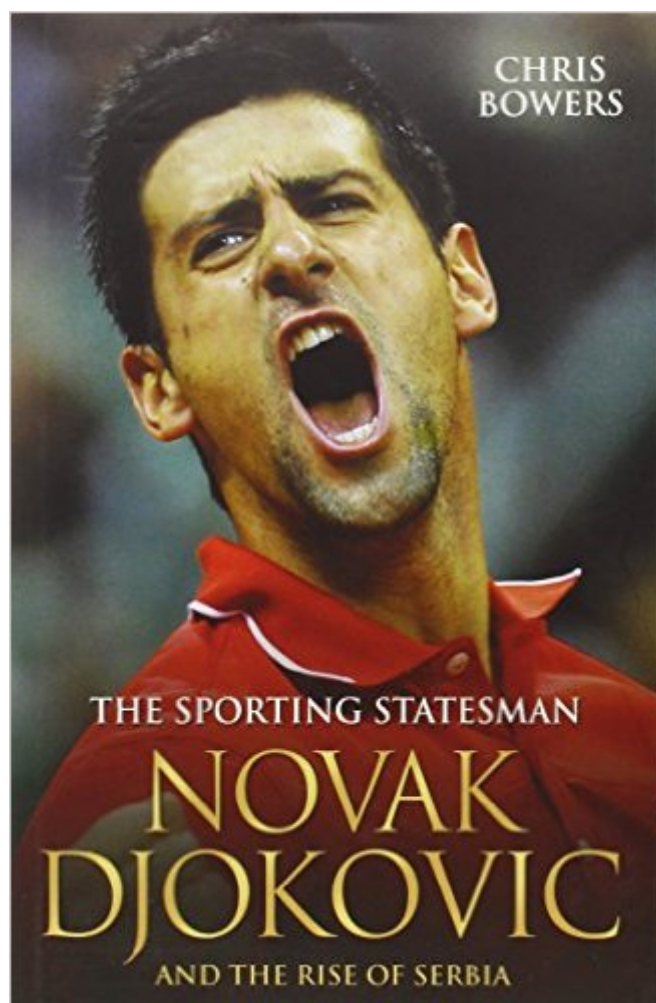


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Novak Djokovic And The Rise Of Serbia: The Sporting Statesman



Synopsis

A biography of one of the greatest living tennis players, and his relationship with his homeland of Serbia Novak Djokovic is not just one of the world's great tennis players, he is the de facto ambassador for his homeland, Serbia. Not an easy job, given the lingering resonance of Serbia's role in the 1990s Yugoslav wars in the world's news bulletins. To this day, the words "Serbia" and "atrocities" are linked in the minds of many. This study of both Djokovic and Serbia paints two powerful portraits. It traces the story of the boy from modest surroundings, telling how he met the woman who not only taught him tennis but how to deal with life as a high-profile icon, charts his battle with illness and his relationship with a volatile father, and how his on-court accomplishments have made his country proud. But it also tells the story of Serbia, pulling no punches about its role in the 1990s wars but offering a sensitive interpretation of the hopes and aspirations of a people with a troubled past. This book weaves together these sporting and geo political strands to present a sensitive portrait of a man and his people, and how determination married with sensitivity can create a sporting statesman.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fantastic book. Showing Djokovic and Serbia with all, good or bad. Behind the scenes stuff is great, his family and relationship with them is amazing read. I as a fellow Serbian clearly disagree with some of the political parts of the book but that is really not important in the big picture. Writer's investigative reporting is of the charts, how far did he go to interview all of those people besides me. Very easy read if you like tennis, sports or just a good real life drama. I thought until now that

"Rafa" is the best tennis book out there but there is a reason why are unauthorized biographies better than authorized. P.S. I know many of my countrymen are gonna disagree with the way Serbia is portrayed in the book. Deal with it. Perception is reality. Not worthy of diminishing amazing book. P.S. Sorry if there are grammar mistakes English is my second language

How can it end up when a tennis commentator will try to write a political manifesto. It's a mixture of "history", Bowers assumptions, let's politely say views. Not even trials in Haag came up with so much blame to Serbia so far. Historical inaccuracies and delusions are topped with pure conspiracy theories as "suicide of Milosevic" and so on. The second and third chapters are full of this kind "history" or better to say stories. This has nothing to do with the real actions or the history of the country of Serbia or Yugoslavia. He just wants to show big contrast and some of his political beliefs. But the BIGGEST flaw regards this book (I can't say biography or book about a sportsman) is that it is failing in the interpretation of Djokovic as sportsman in real facts and career developments rather than just authors fantasies and schemes. No wonder Djokovic refused any direct cooperation on this book, Bowers even fooled people around him to cooperate (like good hearted MRs. Jelena Gencic). Book is just using the name of Djokovic to sneaky bring up the war topic to the sports. Bowers also emphasised in the first pages of the "book" that he was pushed by publisher to construct this ("biography").

I have only read a preview of the book but I'm finding gross factual errors. The author begins with a bang with chapter one explaining Novak's ethnicity by using India's spiritual leader Mahatma Gandhi's birth in South Africa as an exampleexcept he wasn't. How difficult a research is it to find Mahatma Gandhi was in fact born in Porbandar, in the Indian State of Gujarat. This was reason enough for me not to buy the book and get a warped and poorly researched view of my favorite tennis player.

Informative and gives compelling insight into what makes Novak Djokovic one of the greatest players in history but did notice a few inaccuracies. On page x Introduction It was claimed Ana Ivanovic in 1998 won the French Open and reached the top of the women's ranking which is actually INCORRECT. Ivanovic won the French Open title and claimed the no.1 ranking in 2008. On page 226 It was claimed Federer took Nadal to five sets in the semi finals of the 2012 Australian Open but never seriously looked like winning which is actually INCORRECT. Nadal defeated Federer in four sets. On page 238 It was claimed at the 2013 French Open semi final between Djokovic and Nadal

that the Serbian swept to a 4-1 lead in the decider with a double break which is actually INCORRECT. Nadal was only one break down in the fifth set and was never behind 4-1. Djokovic broke the Spaniard in the opening game of the decider but Nadal broke back in the eighth game and again in the sixteenth game of the final set to win the match.

It's a compelling and a mesmerizing reading material about a great Ambassador in Tennis. His dedication, devotion and hard work, to achieve this kind of success is a rarity. Coming from modest background, with very limited resources and then go on to achieve these kinds of accolades is amazing. He is my amazing idol, even more than Pete Sampras, whom I always admire.

Love Djokovic. Great to have some insight into his life.

it's a good book, but not spectacular!

An interesting life story!

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