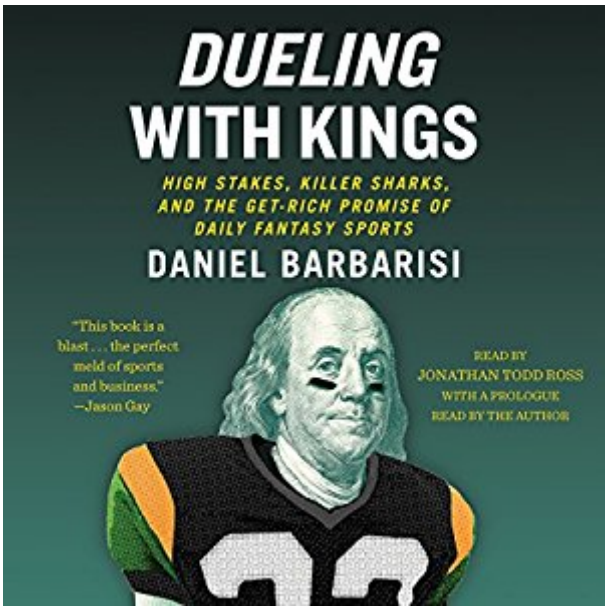
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# Dueling With Kings: High Stakes, Killer Sharks, And The Get-Rich Promise Of Daily Fantasy Sports




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## Synopsis

As Bringing Down the House did for card counters and Positively Fifth Street did for poker players, Daniel Barbarisi does for Daily Fantasy Sports fans in this leap down the rabbit hole of America’s latest obsession. Daniel Barbarisi quits his job as the New York Yankees beat writer for The Wall Street Journal and begins a quest: to join the top 1 percent of Daily Fantasy Sports ("DFS") players, the so-called "sharks", and figure out whether DFS is on the level - while maybe cashing in along the way. DFS is fantasy sports on steroids. It’s the domain of bitter rivals FanDuel and DraftKings, online juggernauts who turned a legal loophole into a billion-dollar industry by allowing sports fans to bet piles of cash constructing fantasy teams. Yet as Barbarisi quickly realized, what should have been a fun companion to casual sports viewing was instead a ferocious environment infested with sharks, a top tier of pros wielding complex algorithms, drafting hundreds of lineups, and wagering six figures daily as they bludgeon unsuspecting amateur "fish". Barbarisi embeds himself inside the world of DFS, befriending and joining its rogues’ gallery as he tries to beat them at their own game. In a work equal parts adventure and rigorously reported investigation, Barbarisi wades into this chaotic industry at the very moment its existence is threatened by lawmakers sick of its Wild West atmosphere and pushy advertising. All their money made FanDuel and DraftKings seem invincible; but, as Barbarisi reports, they made plenty of dubious - perhaps even scandalous - moves as they vied for market supremacy. In Dueling with Kings, Barbarisi uncovers the tumultuous inside story of DFS, all while capturing its peculiar cast of characters, from wide-eyed newly minted millionaires to sun-starved math geeks to bros living an endless frat party of keggers and Playboy bunnies. Can he outwit them all and make it to the top?

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition
Listening Length: 13 hoursÃ Â andÃ Â 8 minutes
Program Type: Audiobook
Version: Unabridged
Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio
Audible.com Release Date: March 7, 2017
Language: English
ASIN: B01NHEU3MW
Best Sellers Rank: #19 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Gambling > Sports #35 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Fantasy Sports #74

inÃ Â Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Games

## Customer Reviews

I can’t give a stronger recommendation. I saw pre-publish outline for this book authored by a former Boston Globe writer and decided to wait two weeks for the release. The book is a combination auto-biography and documentary of the DFS industry. The book is well structured with early engagement on DFS players such as MaxDalury and Condia who made their profits from the author and I. The author decided to take a sabbatical and embed himself to become a winning DFS player. Read the book to learn his result!The book is a wealth of information unlike other DFS references I have seen. Personally, I have read/reviewed more than 30 thoroughbred horse handicapping books. A book written by a professional writer (this book) adds a lot to transferring knowledge to the reader. I waited two weeks from the decision to purchase a book on DFS to receive this book. I spent an enthralling vacation week reading this book and was pleased with my decision to wait. I learned the user (sometimes real) names from the players of the DFS industry such as MaxDalury, Condia, beepinamjeep and 000_oreo_000. I have been unwittingly playing these players and now I understand their core strategies. The author explains why DFS is a game of skill, takes us through the legislative and relationships back to online poker, core issues with DFS and his own voyage from DFS fish to shark.Depending on what you are looking for with respect to DFS, I am confident you will find it here.

Dueling with Kings by Daniel Barbarsi is an excellent book by a former Wall Street Journal staffer. Barbarsi enters and writes on the DFS (Daily Fantasy Sports) industry. He meets and befriends the top players (The Sharks and Whales) to learn their secrets. He explains how they became sharks by their computer scripting, multiple entries, juggling lineups, etc., and how the novice player (you and me) has absolutely no chance against them, at least not in the long term.Mr. Barbarsi becomes one of the sharks he loathed at the beginning of the book, taking down a top prize in a hockey tournament. He also details the DFS fight in New York and the pending agreement between the two largest players, Fan Duel and Draftkings to merger and unite rather than to continue to battle and beat each other’s brains out. The two companies discovered they had more in common that differences.This is an excellent book that was difficult to put down and a real insider’s peek at the DFS industry. I highly recommend it, whether you are a sports fan or DFS fan or not. You don’t have to even know what DFS stands for to enjoy the book (but it might help).Great book. Thank you Mr. Barbarsi.

Barbarisi does an excellent job of weaving together multiple perspectives to give a 360 view of the world of daily fantasy sports. Through Dan the DFS player, the read explores firsthand what it is like enter this new world and ponders the relationship between fish and sharks in the games. Through Dan the reporter, the reader learns the intricacies of the DFS business, the legal issues, and the political strategies of the companies. The friendships Dan formed with professional DFS players add nicely to both these perspectives, and Dan's profiles of these individuals are well written and colorful. As a poker and sports enthusiast, I've read a lot of gambling and big sports data stories--this book is unique!

This book gives you a behind the Curtains look into the DFS world... It is so relatable that it is in my Top 5 books of all time! 100% original Story Telling

This was one of the most entertaining books I've ever read. It is highly recommended for DFS players and sports fans alike. Much like "Alligator Blood" for the poker world, this book gives you a great 'behind the scenes' look at the DFS industry and it's journey for regulation. Additionally, Daniel shares his story of being mentored by one of the best DFS players in the world. It is fun to understand his process and watch his journey in the DFS landscape. I found myself actually 'sweating' the Live Final with him!

I've dabbled in Daily Fantasy Sports, but I've always been content to be one of the "fish", occasionally winning but mostly losing money for fun. Daniel Barbarisi aimed higher, and watch what he achieves! This really reads like a sports book, as the ambitious upstart climbs the ladder and we get lots of interesting details about the industry, the players, the leaders of the companies and the scandals and other roadblocks along the way.

Dan does an amazing job at telling the DFS stories through the years and really makes you feel like you're in the room. I learned a lot about the background of DFS and all the legal things that went into it from New York. Really great read as I have been immersed in the industry for 2 years

Tremendously insightful look at the whole daily fantasy phenomenon, written with humor from the perspective of someone right in the thick of things. Daniel doesn't shy away from the controversial elements and gets many of the biggest players to open up about their process and more. A highly

entertaining read.

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