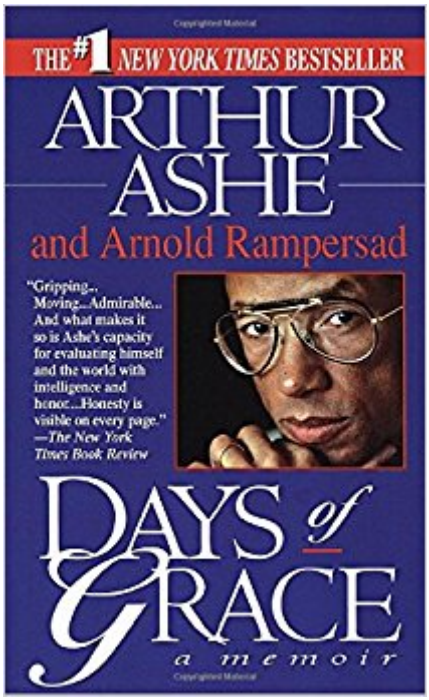
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Days Of Grace: A Memoir



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Synopsis

"Touching and courageous...All of it--the man, the life, the book--is rare and beautiful."COSMOPOLITANDAYS OF GRACE is an inspiring memoir of a remarkable man who was the true embodiment of courage, elegance, and the spirit to fight: Arthur Ashe--tennis champion, social activist, and person with AIDS. Frank, revealing, touching--DAYS OF GRACE is the story of a man felled to soon. It remains as his legacy to us all....AN ALTERNATE SELECTION OF THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Tennis star and political activist Ashe’s eloquent autobiography was a 10-week PW bestseller.

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YA-An introspective and poignant book that is well-worth reading. With the help of Langston Hughes’s biographer, Ashe has written a very absorbing account of his life. He tells of his mother’s death when he was six years old and the strong influence of his loving but demanding father that stood him in good stead when he entered the all-white world of tennis in the 1960s. He recounts his athletic career and the difficulties he experienced on the court with players such as John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors. But the major portion of the book focuses on the 1980s, during which time he had two heart operations and contracted the AIDS virus via a blood transfusion. Although not a homosexual, Ashe became a sympathetic activist for the gay community. He was very vocal in his last years, speaking out against prejudice towards AIDS victims, racism, apartheid, and U.S. policy

towards Haitians wishing to enter this country. This is the inspiring story of a premier athlete and a fine human being who cared passionately about his profession, his family, and the causes he embraced.Pat Royal, Crossland High School, Camp Springs, MDCopyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Being a fan of tennis I had heard a lot about Arthur Ashe, but I really did not know too much about him. He was a really outstanding man: a black boy who lived in times when there was still segregation between blacks and whites, he had to play tennis in black-only courts; he was the first black man to win some of the most important tennis tournaments; he got a college degree which he used to promote the situation of black people; he was afflicted by severe heart problems, and in one of the surgeries he received a blood transfusion with tainted blood, being infected with AIDS. This is a very insightful book because I was able to understand the point of view of an educated black man who suffered of discrimination, how there were times that he felt resentful, how it was to live with AIDS and how to cope with journalists, how to announce it publicly and what it meant to his family. He is very articulate in his thoughts and I could feel myself walking in his shoes.

In this book Arthur touches various areas including the announcement that he had HIV from a transfusion as part of a heart surgery. He discusses his time as coach of the USA Davis Cup team. The last chapters on Days of Grace offer insight into how African Americans lost their moral way which lead to the situation today with many youths completely disrespectful of authority and ending up in prison. His last chapter is directed to his daughter, Camera, and what may have been some of his last words to her. These thoughts show his perspective on life.

I had tried to read this book many times and heard of Arthur Ashe my whole life. He was a tennis star and my cousins from the inner city always received tennis rackets from parks and rec he donated and they always brought them to our home in the suburbs to play. Mike Tyson read this book in prison and has Arthur’s image as a tattoo on his arm. I read several biography a about Arthur as a boy but I’m glad I read this book now as an educated adult to understand many of his points. He dies in 1993 and to understand how educated and knowledgeable he was and that his ideas transcend time was insightful. Read this book and keep in your toolbox because it’s lessons in this book that will make you a better man, husband, and father.

I have always been a fan of Arthur Ashe’s tennis. I think he was one of the greats in sports. When I

heard that he had AIDS, I wondered how this would affect his life, sports, and the fascination people have with celebrities. This book opened my eyes to the pressures on the families of people with HIV/AIDS. He was a true inspiration, as are his wife and daughter. Much can be learned from reading this biography.

One of my all time favorite tennis players, and another that departed us too soon. I have this book for many years, and purchased this as a gift for a player who is young and should learn about Arthur Ashe.

Moving

Met Arthur Ashe some years ago , I was an Umpire at the USOpen tennis tournament. He was a very wonderful person andhis demenor was one of poise,dignity and graceful. His book Days of Grace allowed you to get an inside view of the great remarkable person of Arthur Ashe.

I enjoyed most of this book. It was very insightful hearing about his life and his motivation for certain things. Certainly a man to look up to in his treatment of others!

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