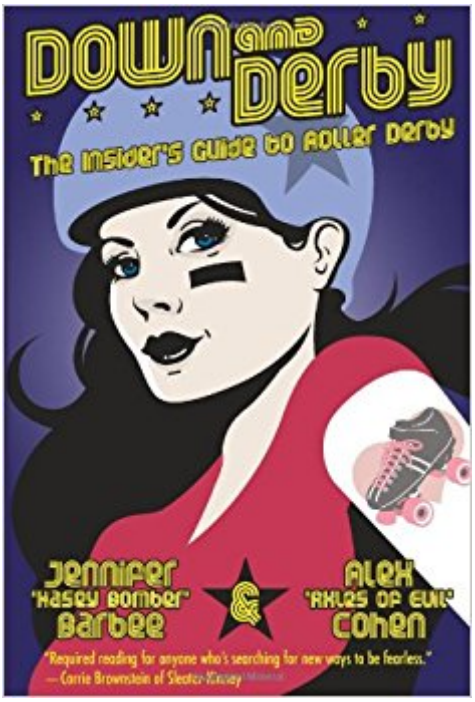
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Down And Derby: The Insider's Guide To Roller Derby



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Synopsis

When most Americans hear the words “roller derbyÃ¢â ¬Â• today, they think of the kitschy sport once popular on weekend television during the seventies and eighties. Originally an endurance competition where skaters traveled the equivalent of a trip between Los Angeles and New York, derby gradually evolved into a violent contact sport often involving fake fighting. But after nearly dying out in the nineties, derby has been making a comeback. From a mere handful of leagues in the United States just a few years ago, there are now more than 17,000 skaters in more than 400 leagues around the world, with hundreds of thousands of die-hard fans. Down and Derby will tell you everything you ever wanted to know about the sport. Written by veteran skaters as both a history and a how-to, Down and Derby is a brassy celebration of every aspect of the sport, from its origins in the late 1800s, to the rules of a modern bout, to the science of picking an alias, to the many ways you can get involved off skates.Informative, entertaining, and executed with the same tough, sassy, DIY attitude — leavened with plenty of humor — that the sport is known for, Down and Derby is the first and last book on derby youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll ever need.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Praise for Down and Derby“As someone who has witnessed the many transitions of roller derby almost from the beginning, I can say that this chronicle isnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t just for fans of all the stages of the game, but for anyone who wants to enjoy an inspiring story about truly fascinating people.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Jerry Seltzer, derby pioneer and owner of the original Roller Derby league“Fast, dirty, seductive, kooky, cunning, foxy, cheeky, wicked, crazy, bad arse and most importantly, no bullshit. These are the words that tumble from my mind to my fingers having read

Down and Derby. Veterans in the world of roller derby, Axles and Kasey are an inspiration to derby girls everywhere, myself included. The Whip It Hurl Scouts couldnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t have done it without them. I canÃ¢â ¬â„¢t say enough about these women or this book. Game on!Ã¢â ¬Â• —ZoÃƒÂ« “Bloody HollyÃ¢â ¬Â• Bell, stuntwoman and star of Quentin TarantinoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Death Proof “Roller derby is one of the most empowering and intriguing worlds IÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve ever come across. ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s amazing to encounter a sport where women get out there and do such extraordinary things. But derby is more than just a sport, itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s a sisterhood.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Drew Barrymore“A rockÃ¢â ¬â„¢em sockÃ¢â ¬â„¢em history and how-to guide by two roller girls about the derby they love to death. Told in a no-BS style that makes you feel like an insider sharing a beer after the match. This is sparkly, terrific, and bad ass!Ã¢â ¬Â• —John Doe of X“Feminism can come in the form of placards and protests, but Down and Derby proves that a girlÃ¢â ¬â„¢s liberation can also involve strapping on a pair of skates, taking on a kick-ass nickname, and throwing a few hip checks in the process.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Marisa Meltzer, author of Girl Power“Part manifesto, part how-to-guide, Down and Derby demystifies the world of roller derby, showing readers itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s as inclusive as it is cool. After finishing this book, you no longer have an excuse for keeping your boring name or for never trying on a pair of skates. This is required reading for anyone who’s searching for new ways to be fearless.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Carrie Brownstein of Sleater-Kinney“Axles of Evil and Kasey Bomber are two of the most sincere, awesome, kick-ass women IÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve ever met. They are champions of roller derby—and not just in a flashy way but in a really smart way. Being able to have learned to skate under their wing has been one of the greatest experiences of my life. Down and Derby is the next best thing to training with them personally. If you love derby this is the book youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve been waiting for.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Ellen Page, star of Whip It“As the author of an old Roller Derby book, let me just say this to the new kid on the rink: up with Down and Derby. Whether youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re already a Derby doll or a doll wannabe itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s required reading.Ã¢â ¬Â• —Frank Deford, , author of Five Strides On The Banked Track

A little cheesy at times, but overall it was a decent read.

An absolutely necessary, fun, well-written, and especially encouraging book on starting, learning more about, supporting and playing roller derby! It encourages me so much as a cadet and I very often refer to this book for help on derby rules, supporting the team, and just delving more into the sport you wish to learn more about or one you choose to pursue!A must-by and a very good

introduction book for anyone curious or even a vet.

As a coach for my local roller derby league, I have recommended this book to each and every league mate at least three or four times to each person in the time it took me to read it in it entirety.

As someone who has been around roller derby all of about 8 weeks, I wanted to learn whatever I could about the sport and its revival.I got this book last Friday and got through it over the weekend. It’s an entertaining and informative read - essential reading for anybody who wants to get up to speed on roller derby.

I have been in Roller Derby for just under a year and so many of the comment, interviews etc in this book just made me smile (and maybe get nearly teary) as this book is so perfectly real.I loved the interviews and while I knew most of the history already, this is a great book for anyone in derby or just interested in derby.You should buy this book... and I dont tell people that very often.

Down and Derby is comprehensive narrative of the sport -- its rules, history, cultural impact, personalities and evolution -- written in an intelligent and light style. Every Saturday for the last two months, I’ve started my day with a few chapters. Now that it’s done, I’m looking for my next off-the-track derby fix, but I know I’ll regularly cracking this one open for tips, anecdotes and as a reference source.

Know your history!! I let my derby wife borrow this book and I still havent gotten it back. And I dont even mind! I would purchase it again and again. The most comprehensive, easy to devour biography of derby to date!

I bought this as a Christmas present for my best friend last Christmas because she was part of a roller derby team. She LOVED her book!!! She said she could not put it down and finished it within the week. She even let her sister read it, and she fell in love with it too! I haven’t read it but since they loved it so much, I decided to give it 5 stars!

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