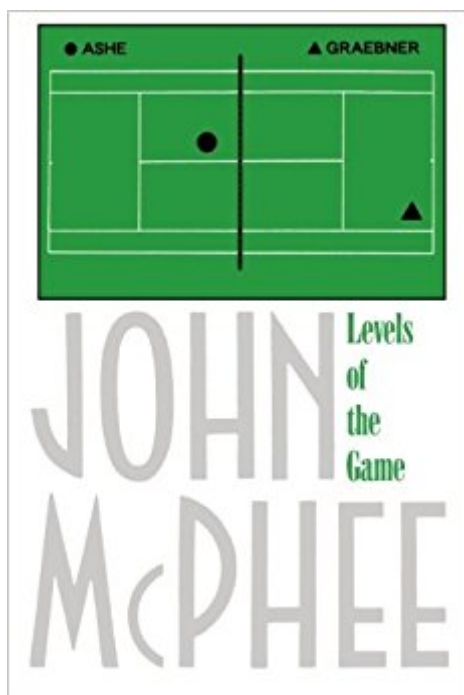


The book was found

Levels Of The Game



Synopsis

This account of a tennis match played by Arthur Ashe against Clark Graebner at Forest Hills in 1968 begins with the ball rising into the air for the initial serve and ends with the final point. McPhee provides a brilliant, stroke-by-stroke description while examining the backgrounds and attitudes which have molded the players' games.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“This may be the high point of American sports journalism.” —Robert Lipsyte, *The New York Times*

“McPhee has produced what is probably the best tennis book ever written. On the surface it is a joint profile of . . . Arthur Ashe and Clark Graebner, but underneath it is considerably more—namely, a highly original way of looking at human behavior . . . He proves his point with consummate skill and journalistic artistry. You are the way you play, he is saying. The court is life.” —Donald Jackson, *Life*

“John McPhee’s *Levels of the Game* . . . alternates between action on the court and interwoven profiles of the contestants. It is a remarkable performance—written with style, verve, insight and wit.” —James W. Singer, *Chicago Sun-Times*

John McPhee was born in Princeton, New Jersey, and was educated at Princeton University and Cambridge University. His writing career began at *Time* magazine and led to his long association with *The New Yorker*, where he has been a staff writer since 1965. Also in 1965, he published his first book, *A Sense of Where You Are*, with Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and in the years since, he

has written nearly 30 books, including *Oranges* (1967), *Coming into the Country* (1977), *The Control of Nature* (1989), *The Founding Fish* (2002), *Uncommon Carriers* (2007), and *Silk Parachute* (2011). *Encounters with the Archdruid* (1972) and *The Curve of Binding Energy* (1974) were nominated for National Book Awards in the category of science. McPhee received the Award in Literature from the Academy of Arts and Letters in 1977. In 1999, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *Annals of the Former World*. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

a great book if you're a tennis fan. mcphee is so good a writer he was able to get me to read 200 pages, 2/3 of a book, on the geology of california. in this book he spends time with arthur ashe and clark graebner and watches a film of their forest hills final with each of them, revealing what they were each thinking from moment to moment. he weaves in biography and other material. in all, a fascinating and fun read.

Not long. Impactful. Worth it. If you enjoy sports and love the story that exists in brief moments read this book.

This is a terrific book that takes you inside the minds and games of two great players. I've just re-read this book to research a book I'm working (I'm the author of *The Courts of Babylon*, and a tennis writer by trade) on and what really touched and impressed me is how freely and openly Arthur Ashe and Clark Graebner discussed issues like race and personal politics. Made me realize how discriminatory, filtered, and coded our conversations about such issues are today. This book was declared a classic for a reason, and it has had the legs to endure.

This book was assigned reading in my journalism course. I like tennis but it's not a sport that I am crazy about. I also was none too happy about reading an entire book dedicated to a single match. To my surprise, this was an interesting read that kept me turning the pages. As the title implies, there are levels to the game and that is the same approach the author took in writing this book. It is biographical and insightful. McPhee explores how each of these men's lives inform their game.

Wow .. Another McPhee masterpiece!.. always a pleasant read ,(McPhee)this one details the lives of two tennis greats and the US game itself comes into focus. McPhee must be the greatest of American writers!

Good quick read.

Levels of the game is a brilliantly written book! A masterpiece! A great lesson in storytelling! I recommend that everyone should read the book. The book is great read and will enhance your effective communications. Amazing! I learned a lot from reading about one tennis match. Go figure!

John McPhee writes about a match between Clark Graebner and Arthur Ashe at Forest Hills in 1968. The play by play is riveting but what I enjoyed most about the book is how the author delved into the backgrounds of the players who came from families worlds apart. If you enjoy books on the tennis history, you certainly will enjoy this.

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