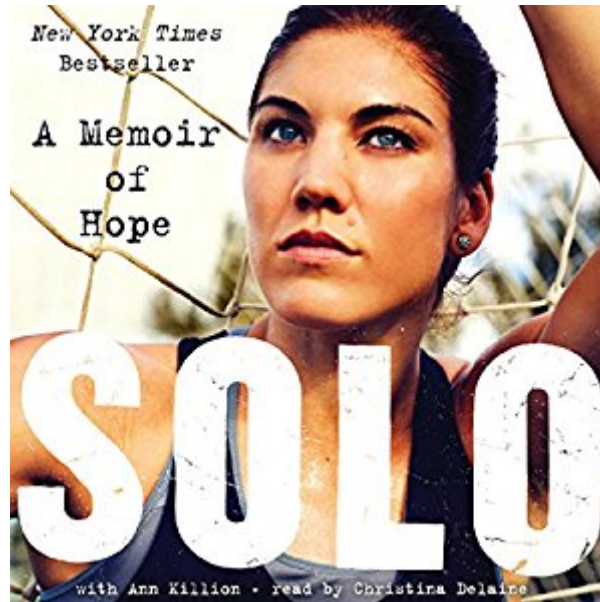




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Solo: A Memoir Of Hope



Synopsis

"My family doesn't do happy endings. We do sad endings or frustrating endings or no endings at all. We are hardwired to expect the next interruption or disappearance or broken promise." Hope Solo is the face of the modern female athlete. She is fearless, outspoken, and the best in the world at what she does: protecting the goal of the U.S. women's soccer team. Her outsized talent has led her to the pinnacle of her sport - the Olympics and the World Cup - and made her into an international celebrity who is just as likely to appear on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* as she is on the covers of *Sports Illustrated*, *ESPN The Magazine*, and *Vogue*. But her journey - which began in Richland, Washington, where she was raised by her strong-willed mother on the scorched earth of defunct nuclear testing sites - is similarly haunted by the fallout of her family history. Her father, a philanderer and con man, was convicted of embezzlement when Solo was an infant. She lost touch with him as he drifted out of prison and into homelessness. By the time they reunited, years later, in the parking lot of a grocery store, she was an All-American goalkeeper at the University of Washington and already a budding prospect for the U.S. national team. He was living in the woods. Despite harboring serious doubts even about the provenance of her father's last name (and her own), Solo embraces him as fiercely as she pursues her dreams of being a world-class soccer player. When those dreams are threatened by her standing within the national team, as when she was famously benched in the semifinals of the 2007 World Cup after four shutouts and spoke her piece publicly, we see a woman of uncompromising independence and hard-won perseverance navigate the petty backlash against her. For the first time, she tells her version of that controversial episode, and offers with it a full understanding of her hard-scrabble life. Moving, sometimes shocking, Solo is a portrait of an athlete finding redemption. This is the Hope Solo whom few have ever glimpsed.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Many people make false assumptions about Hope Solo. First of all - if you have seen her in a game or a video you are like "Look at her! shes a Greek Goddess! " She must be a princess who had helicopter parents taking her to soccer practice. But those kind of assumptions are thrown out the window well within the first chapter. This girl did not have anything handed to her on a silver plate. She has come from a troubled background that would have seen most of us go into depression and take up a life of crime. Here is an example of someone who has truly fought tooth and nail to make the best of her God given talents. Every one of us has talents - but we rarely go all in and make them our life's work. Hope Solo is a naturally talented athlete - she could have taken up any sport and excelled at it - soccer just turned out to be her true love. What makes this book incredibly remarkable is that she is so honest about some of the most painful aspects of her life. Things that most of us like to sweep under the rug or turn into secondary anger to be taken out on someone. It takes tremendous strength of character to make peace with such a rocky childhood and move on and be able to share it with the world. Read this book - and you'll feel you are with Hope Solo inside the locker room of the USWNT. It is a terrific first hand account of some of the most amazing sports moments!

If you didn't buy this book because you wanted Gossip! and Lots Of It! you'll come away very disappointed. Because Nelson Mandela she ain't. Fortunately for the rest of us, this book has plenty of gossip, drama and more. Wanna know what *really* (and by "really," I mean "according to Solo") went down in 2007? Than this is the book for you. But the rest of it isn't entirely a waste either. There's something absurdly compelling about this woman who feels very much at odds with society, has a vaguely confrontational, almost violent mindset about nearly everything, lives in a tiny cabin in the woods, and, oh yeah, is the best goalkeeper in the whole world. She's a real-life anti-hero, folks! There's also the usual ghostwritten nonsense, of course, with drama injected, and I'm not sure how I feel about it being written when it was (it just sort-of... ends - sequel bait!). But as crazy pants celebrity autobiographies go, this is one of the better ones.

This book takes you below Solo's "rough" exterior and allows you to appreciate all that she has accomplished. Learning about all of her achievements and all of the obstacles that she has had to overcome will leave you simply amazed. I now have a new appreciation for the sport and the players and an even deeper respect for Solo. All of the negative media that has surrounds her and still continues to surround her becomes irrelevant once you learn about and witness Solo's skill, work ethic, and passion for the game. She is truly a role model for all.

This is a great look at, what Hope Solo is, and what makes her what she is. She has the reflexes of an Old West Gunslinger, and the attitude of a Middle Linebacker. That is why she plays the position she does.....Goalkeeper. But this book is way more than just a soccer tale, it is also the story of a person that has been trying to find out who she is, and why her World is sometimes so confusing. Hope can come off being brash, cocky, arrogant, demanding, pushy, angry, standoffish, intimidating, opinionated, and above all.....a goalie you would want in net, when the big game is on the line. In other words, she talks the talk, but she can walk the walk. I have coached many soccer teams, men and women, and have always enjoyed watching the Goalkeepers, as they are in their own zones, and they have to be. Many coaches, fail to understand, a goalie has to think of themselves as unbeatable, or they can't be that "last man". They have to love that kind of pressure, and want to be the one to save the game. I have had quite a few Goalkeepers, go on to play in college, and they all had the look in the eyes, that you see on Hope. Don't judge Hope Solo, until you have read her story.

This was a good book about a small town girl who made it big with her athletic abilities. She goes in depth about her trials and tribulations during her time in the US National Team. She talks about the heartaches and the issues she was faced with. She did not shy away from discussing the harder parts of her life, and for that I respect her. She is a strong woman who will not sugarcoat anything. She will tell it like it is. If you are looking to read about a drive, passionate, strong willed woman, this is a good book for you.

I think Hope is a vibrant and outgoing person who speaks her mind, which sometimes gets her in trouble. She has passion, but not much of a filter, which can be a real turn off for most people. She comes across as a narcissist at times, but then she can be so sweet and present with her family, dysfunctional as they have been over the years they seem to stick together. She is a young writer, so it wasn't the best writing, but the story was interesting enough and that balanced it out. If you are

interested in women's soccer or in women's sports in general, you will like this book.

Got to me just as I was told. Love the book! Best condition I have ever received anything from the internet. It was new and was wrapped around with bubble wrap. Thanks to the seller! RichJersey08, Rita. The memoir is awesome. Totally worth the money. Got great insight to what was happening to the team and events in her life from her view. I love Hope. It is very humorous, emotional both sad and happy. Love it!

Without question Hope had some adversity to deal with! The media is good at simplifying issues or getting them wrong to make villains out of some stars and heroes out of others. Humans are usually more complex than that. It was really nice to hear Hope's perspective of her experiences. It is an easy read and really shows the strength behind the world's greatest goalie.

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