



Don Cherry's Hockey Stories and Stuff

Don Cherry , Al Strachan (Contributor)

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#1 National Bestseller

Don Cherry has been named a National Hockey League Coach of the Year with a winning percentage of over .600 and also received Coach of the Year honours in the American Hockey League. His comments on *Hockey Night in Canada*'s "Coach's Corner" routinely make headlines as they entertain, educate, and often upset some fans throughout North America. He may be controversial, but no one can deny the popularity he enjoys; popularity that was reflected in his top 10 ranking in the competition to determine "The Greatest Canadian."

Now from Grapes himself comes the book that hockey fans of all ages have been waiting for. Written with veteran sports journalist Al Strachan, here are Don Cherry's favourite stories from his career in hockey. And you can imagine the stories he has to tell.

Don Cherry's Hockey Stories and Stuff Details

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From Reader Review Don Cherry's Hockey Stories and Stuff for online ebook

Natalie says

One thing I can say about this:
IT'S A BEAUTY (THUMBS UP)

Scott Vout says

I know it says this book was written as Mr. Cherry talks and that is fine. But this book was only checked with a wordprocessor spell checker. There were soooooooo many sentices with the words in the wrong order it was way worse then just the way Cherry talks.

That aside, i am a big Cherry fan. I have met the man and was able to spend some time talking with him. I think he is the best thing to happen to hockey since Bobby Orr.

There were some great stories in this book but be prepared for some crazy bouncing around. He starts to tell one story then jumps to another and then comes back to add more to the first story.

All in all an easy read with some funny anicdotes.

Ray says

This was a very quick read as I have heard many of the stories on his radio show "Grapeline" with Brian Williams. Nonetheless, many of the stories were still funny.

Mike says

If you love Don Cherry, or are a huge hockey fan, you will enjoy this book.

More of an interview than a book, Don tells many stories from his days as a hockey player and coach. It's hard to believe he never won a Stanley Cup.

If you are not a hockey fan, well, this book is probably not for you. If you like Coach's Corner, I'd consider this a near must read.

Alex Gregory says

What a strange book.

When I found this at a thrift store (signed, no less), part of me was expecting a long, thorough biography with Grapes' most fondly-remembered moments. What I got instead was a bunch of long, rambling diatribes with no clear connection and a confusing layout.

The biggest problem with this book comes via the format. It's not separated by chapters. Instead, the book is a series of stories, with most ranging anywhere from half-a-page to two pages, and interspersed with commentary by the book's editor, Al Strachan, giving more clarification to the names and places referenced by Cherry.

Cherry himself states that he wanted to make this read in his signature style, but the end result is confusing and all over the place narratively. Sometimes he'll talk about his experiences coaching the Boston Bruins, then he'll jump back and forth talking about his beloved dog Blue, then he'll talk about his childhood, then coaching, then doing Coach's Corner, then coaching, and on and on and on.

Strachan's asides don't do the material any favors either. His little notes are extremely off-putting at the beginning of the book, and I'm surprised that nobody stopped Cherry and told him that making a straightforward chronology would be much better in the long run. There are even points that could have acted as de facto chapters, but the end result is a confusing, muddled mess. It's really only readable in fits and starts.

I don't know what it is with certain media personalities who think they can just write a book full of anecdotes and expect it to sell. Your book has no longevity.

Ian says

I love Don Cherry. He can't spell. He writes the way he talks. There is no PhD-stuff in here, just great hockey stories.

Clayton Wandler says

It was a very good book. I liked how he put it in his own words. It was very funny. I really liked the pictures in it. I also liked well every thing in the book. I would recommend it to people who like Hockey Night In Canada.

Jason Saunders says

This book is a great read. The reader feels as if he/she is sitting in Don's living room listening to him tell the greatest stories from his vast hockey past. There are time during this book tha you will have no choice to laugh out loud. I've been a fan of Don Cherry for years and watch him regularly on Hockey Night in Canada. I thought it was nice that some of the stories that he has made reference over the years on the show were brought up with more detail in the book. Gives you that feeling "Hey.. I remember him and Ron talking about that a few years ago on HNIC). Alot of great stories, fun read from start to finish, you will not be disappointed.

Chad says

Loved this book. Gets you into the mind and takes you back in time to where Grapes got his start in life and love of the game! Must read for all sports fans!

Wendy says

This was a very interesting quick read. After watching Don and Ron on "Coaches Corner" during Hockey Night in Canada on Saturday nights this book has told me all about Don's life. From playing in the minors, and never quite making it to the NHL, to coaching various teams in the minors and NHL, to now being a part of Hockey Night in Canada.

His brutal honesty, witty remarks and his partnering with Ron MacLean have made him a star.

I was also able to learn about his love for "Blue" his pit-bull that has been pictured with Don many times as well as being in commercials with him.

He also spoke of the love of his life "Rose" his wife, who died many years ago of cancer.

Don has a daughter, Cindy and a son Timothy who is a hockey scout.

I am now looking forward to his next 2 books.

Paula Dembeck says

This looks like a book put together to make money for the Xmas season. It is a long list of stories told in his "not very articulate English". The stories often ramble and it is hard to get the point, but it does tell some "inside stuff". The book is structured so it seems he is telling stories to a bunch of guys at a bar. Al Strachan, a more erudite author, tries to add some commentary to make sense of some of it. A big disappointment.

Eugene says

As a liberal son of immigrants, there is no rational reason that someone could have given me read this book. Don Cherry has voiced strong negative opinions about both. But having enjoyed Coach's Corner from time to time, and an attempt increase empathy for people who I tend not to agree with, I thought I would give it a try. As well, since it was a library book, I figured I'm not directly financially supporting those opinions.

I must admit that I enjoyed this book. Cherry is just a cranky old man who's had a very interesting life and formed some strong opinions based on his experiences. I'm certain that at his core, he's not a wicked man. He's just very grumpy, and his delivery makes this a fun read - you get a few chuckles and get to know a little bit more about his interesting life and the personalities he's interacted with.

Snail in Danger (Sid) Nicolaides says

This is an "as told to" book, and as a consequence reading it is exactly like listening to Don Cherry talk on Coach's Corner. If his version of English drives you crazy ... stop, put the book down, do not open it. I liked it, though. I feel like I understand the guy's thought process more. Is that a good thing? I'm not sure. ;)

Dryfly says

Don Cherry's Hockey Stories and Stuff was a pleasant surprise. I've always enjoyed Cherry's commentary on Hockey Night In Canada, but I've also thought that he was a bit of a meathead. He's funny, somewhat insightful, a full-on Canadian redneck that loves being a redneck. When you look at the cover of the book, you get the feeling that it will somehow be the print version of his Rock 'em Sock 'em Greatest Hits video series. Instead, what you find inside is something completely different and the cover is very misleading and doesn't do the book justice.

The book is simply an unordered compilations of stories from Cherry, written exactly how he would tell it. There is no attempt to "correct" the grammar that Cherry uses. This turns out to be a brilliant idea, because Cherry is one of hockey's greatest story tellers and there is no better way to hear the story being told. The stories encompass all aspects of Cherry's life in hockey: his AHL career, NHL coaching career, life on tv and the CBC, his dog, his dad. While reading the book it is obvious that Cherry loves the hard hitting and brutal side of hockey, but what really struck me was just how much of a humanist Cherry is. The book is in perfect sync with the fallen soldier memorials that Cherry has at the end of his show on HNIC. There are many great stories in the book, such as coaching a Bruins team with Bobby Orr and Brad park, or getting in a fight and almost having his thumb bit off. What really sets the book apart though is how it shows Cherry's understanding of compassion and kindness.

Candace says

You have to like hockey and Grapes to read this book. It is written as he speaks, so if you can listen to the words in Cherry's voice, you will fly through it and be amused. If you can't, the grammar will drive you insane.
