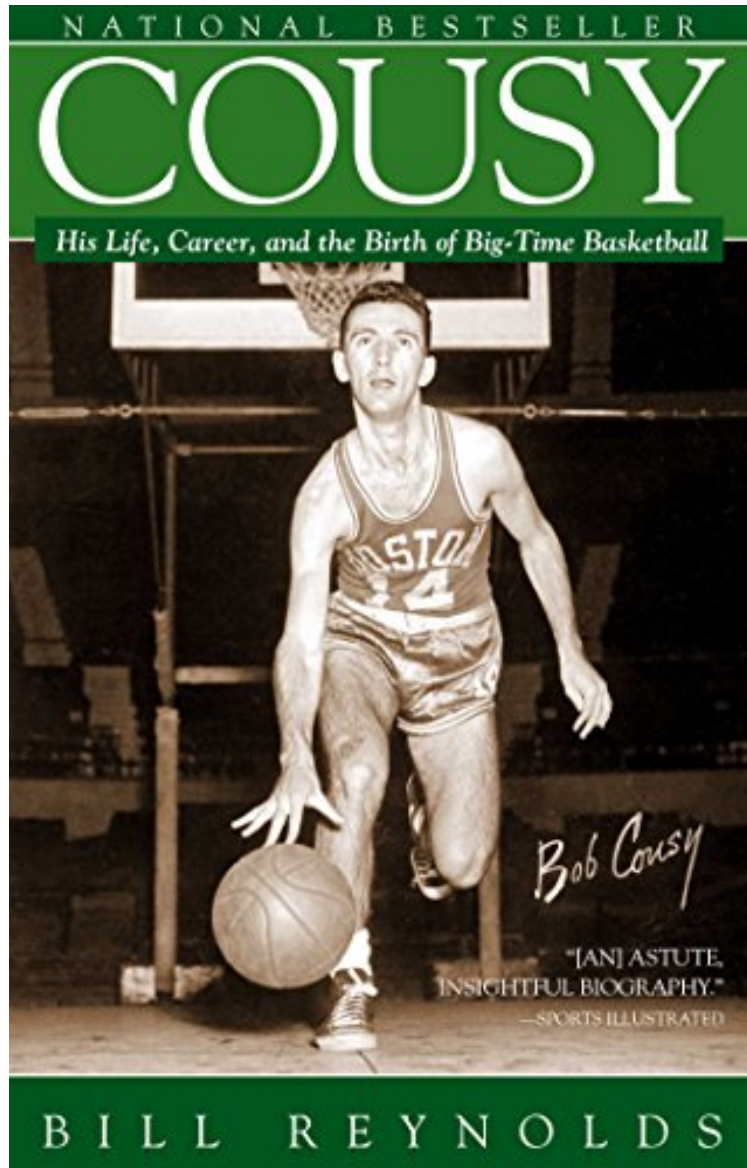


(Mobile ebook) Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basket (English Edition)

Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basket (English Edition)

Von Bill Reynolds

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Von Bill Reynolds : Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basket (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basket (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. How Basketball Has ChangedVon Donald MitchellI started attending Celtics games just after Bob Cousy retired as a player. Naturally, I had seen many of his playoff games on television but the game looks much different in the arena than on the small screen. Having listened to his many road broadcasts over the years, I felt I knew a lot about his philosophy of basketball. For me the potential appeal of this book was to understand how he became the great offensive innovator who helped establish classic Celtics fast break and passing basketball.I found the answer to my question in Cousy's difficult early years, growing up poor in a family where his parents didn't get along and where coaches assessed by his size rather than the size of his heart. From those hardscrabble beginnings, Cousy developed a fundamental insecurity that meant that winning wasn't a desire, it was the only state of being that was acceptable to his perfectionist self. But that psychological need was balanced by a strong identification with the underdog and the oppressed . . . even if he wasn't always sensitive enough to act on those feelings as often as he could have. I enjoyed that part of the book very much.But the bulk of the book is really about how professional basketball went from being a minor attraction beneath both the college game and the Harlem Globetrotters into today's massive and profitable business for the players. Having grown up with that transition, I found the book to be a pretty superficial rehash of what I already knew. I didn't enjoy that part of the book very much. But if you are under the age of 25, this material will be new to you, and you will probably find it to be interesting. You will probably rate the book higher than I did as a result.The book's other weakness is that it is rather like a career highlight video . . . just visiting the high spots of Cousy's life. For someone who wants to know more, you'll have to read another book.

KurzbeschreibungBob Cousy is one of the greatest figures in American sports history. He was a first-team All-NBA player ten years in a row, the MVP of the 1957 season. He led the NBA in assists for eight straight years. He played in six NBA championships with the Boston Celtics. In a sense, he was the first modern player and flashy playmaker, the first improviser, the first player to look inside the boundaries of a basketball court and see endless possibilities -- jazz musician as point guard. To teammates, coaches, and opponents, he was the greatest basketball player of all time. But to millions of fans, he was simply "Cooz."In Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basketball, veteran sportswriter Bill Reynolds -- with the full cooperation of Bob Cousy -- reveals the man often called "the Babe Ruth of basketball," the dazzling athlete who brought "showtime basketball" to the NBA and changed the game forever. Bob Cousy, the originator of the behind-the-back dribble and the no-look pass, joined the Boston Celtics in 1950, when the fledgling NBA was still competing with rodeo and professional wrestling for column inches in the sports pages. When Cousy retired thirteen years later, the NBA had joined baseball and football as a premier American entertainment. This absorbing portrait not only recounts Cousy's record-breaking career but also reveals the superstar's little-known personal life -- from his impoverished childhood in New York City, when he was ironically cut from his high school basketball team in both his freshman and sophomore years, to his eventful life after his playing career, when he coached Boston College and the Cincinnati Royal in the NBA. Readers will discover the mind of a man so tortured by the fear of failure that he had recurring nightmares, walked in his sleep, and developed a nervous tic. Before Jerry West and Oscar Robertson, before Kareem and Dr. J., before the Lakers brought showtime basketball to the national stage, the Celtics dominated the NBA for more than a decade. And Cousy was the team's biggest star. As Reynolds examines the inner workings of a truly one-of-a-kind athlete, Cousy: His Life, Career, and the Birth of Big-Time Basketball examines as never before an era of basketball largely unknown to modern fans, with portraits of many of the NBA's vintage superstars, such as Bill Russell, Wilt Chamberlain, and Elgin Baylor, as well as perhaps the greatest basketball coach of all time -- the Boston Celtics' Red Auerbach.From Publishers WeeklyNicknamed the "Houdini of the Hardwood" by sportswriters during the 1950s, Bob Cousy was basketball's "first genuine superstar," as Providence Journal columnist Reynolds shows in this insightful, well-written biography. Cousy became a Hall of Fame member for originating such NBA staples as the behind-the-back dribble and the no-look pass, but most importantly because his enormous talent made the Boston Celtics the dominant team of the 1960s. Excellent chapters on Cousy's pro career explore his interactions with basketball legends like the gruff Celtics coach Red Auerbach and Bill Russell, the brilliant and enigmatic Celtics center who endured years of racism from many of the same Boston fans who cheered Cousy. Reynolds does a remarkable job illuminating the sport's early days in the 1940s, when three-time All-American Cousy became one of the biggest names in college hoops, and the NBA's first gritty years. But the book's best parts are those in which Reynolds illuminates how Cousy's impoverished 1930s youth in a Manhattan tenement and the constant tension between his parents created in him a drive to succeed that resulted in anxiety attacks, sleepwalking and a "raw, unadulterated, fear" of failureall of which he hid from the public yet used to motivate himself and to maintain a social consciousness about racism that was unfortunately uncommon for his era. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistBob Cousy was the NBA's first fan-friendly star. George Mikan was leading the Minneapolis Lakers to championships, but he was a bespectacled behemoth with whom few fans could identify. Cousy, on the other hand, was only six feet tall, and he dazzled fans with his ball handling.

Reynolds, a columnist for the Providence Journal, gives the NBA's first marketable star the full-dress biography he deserves. Working from material collected in a series of interviews with Cousy, Reynolds traces the star's early life and shows how he became, first, the Celtics' team leader and, later, how he merged his talents with those of Bill Russell to forge a dynasty. Reynolds also explores Cousy's close but not too close relationship with the baseline Celtic coach and general manager Red Auerbach. Cousy collaborated on a couple of earlier biographies, but this is clearly the definitive one. Reynolds brings a serious biographer's sense of balance to the task, as contrasted with a typical sports biographer's sense of hype. This is wonderful reading, both for old-time fans and new ones who wonder if superstars were always like Shaq and Kobe. Wes Lukowsky Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved