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Tracks: Racing The Sun



Synopsis

In this epic novel about the motor-racing heroes of Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany, legendary characters battle to win incredible races on switchback roads along the edges of ravines. Exploring the relationships between the champions as much as the sporting events themselves, this is a thrilling tale based on true rivalries, triumphs and disasters during a fascinating period in European sporting history.

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Customer Reviews

I'm a car guy. Have been since I was 4. Grew up to be the Editor of CAR and DRIVER magazine. Love auto racing. Have written a couple of books about racing, but none have been as good as Sandro Martini's book, "Tracks of the Sun." There have been better descriptions of what it's like to drive a race car (the late Charles Fox was a master), but none better at describing the world of motor racing...particularly racing's 'Golden Age' in the 1930s. Not just the cars (Mercedes, Auto Union, Alfa Romeo), the drivers (Nuvolari, Varzi, Rosemeyer, Caracciola, von Brauchitsh) and the tracks (the surreal Avus, the nightmarish Targa Florio), but the world they lived in: their wives, their

friends, their rivals, where they lived, where they ate, where they traveled...in the context of a wider world careening toward WW2 (to the fascist leaders of Germany and Italy, race drivers were living, breathing nationalist propaganda). Martini makes you feel the hardscrabble on the track, hear the howl of the 600-horsepower engines at 200 mph, smell the burning rubber and the hot metal, and watch the lucky participants tuck into a meal at a favorite restaurant. A marvelous read. Highly recommended.

This is a great read! If you have an interest in the Golden years of motor racing then this is a MUST read. It gives you a deeper incite into the period than all but the best of the currently available biographies. OK, it is a fictionalized account, but the fiction is minimal and the feel absolutely correct. Not interested in 1930's racing? read this and become aware of the time when men, and a few women raced cars that could reach 249 miles an hour with no seat belt, no helmet, no flame proof suits, just skill and guts!

I am about half way through this book at the moment. It is an interesting read that gives a good view of the early days of Grand Prix racing. As a fan of Formula 1 and history, this book fills both of these interests.

Excellent historical fiction book on a time kinda lost between WWI and WWII. Really helpful to have a picture book of cars and drivers of this era. Varzi, Nuvolari, Ferrari (the man), Alfa Romeo's, Bugatti, Auto Union (Audi) Mercedes just to name a few. The story starts in 1968, with interview of man who covered the pre-war racing era. So the timeline goes back and forth.

As a motor sports enthusiast I was greatly surprised by this book. It is a well researched novel that shows us the insights of a bygone era. I had read about racing in the 30's but after finishing this book my respect for these real life heroes such as Nuvolari, Varzi, Rosemeyer, Caracciolla and the rest of the drivers grew to the highest level.

“Tracks” tells the grand story of Formula One racing between the World Wars. Martini makes the rivalry between these two amazing racers and their two nations “extremely compelling to all readers, whether they were familiar with racing history or not before they cracked the cover. Good stuff!

Good read for Car lovers especially for Car Racing guys.

I bought a copy of this book for my Formula One-enthusiast father-in-law. Before I sent it to him, I decided to have a read. I did not expect to be so drawn in, but the level of detail is amazing. I highly recommend this book.

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