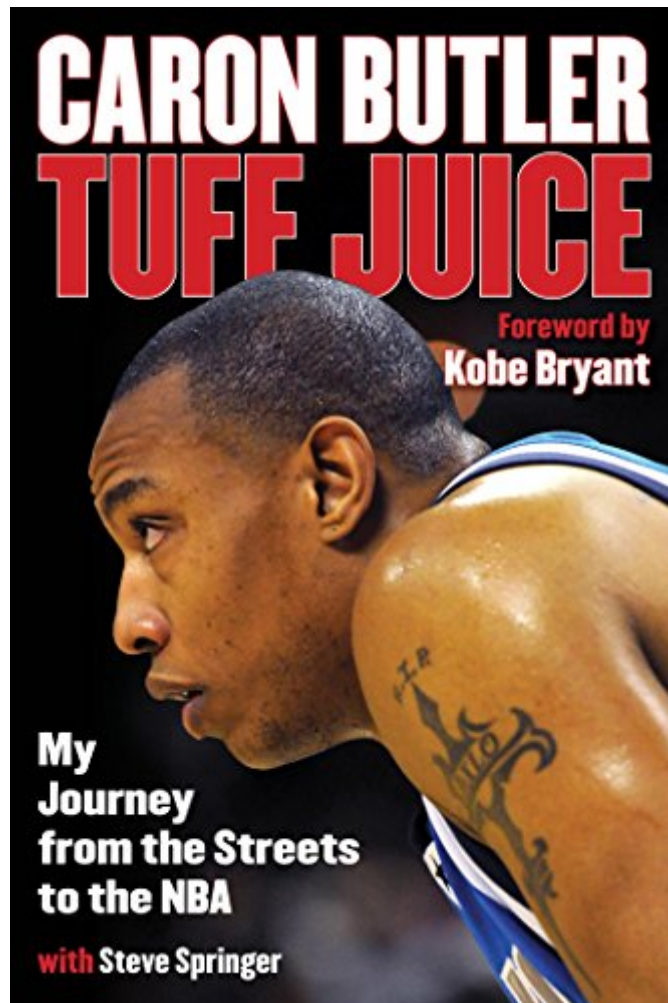


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# Tuff Juice: My Journey From The Streets To The NBA



## Synopsis

Two-time All-Star and thirteen-year NBA veteran Caron Butler has an impressive basketball record. He was Big East Co-Player of the Year at UConn, the 10th overall pick of the 2002 NBA Draft and a key player for the Dallas Mavericks in their championship-winning season in 2011. But before Butler had a chance to prove himself on the court, he spent his time trying to prove himself on the streets, as a gang member and drug dealer in his hometown of Racine, Wisconsin. He saw friends gunned down in the bloody street wars near his home, was arrested nearly 15 times and wound up behind bars and in solitary confinement before his 15th birthday. Tuff Juice shares Caron Butler's extraordinary journey from his delinquent youth in the streets of Racine to his role as an accomplished pro basketball player, dedicated husband and father, active philanthropist and burgeoning businessman. Along the way, the book explores the incredible impact his single mother's unconditional love and his college coach's unwavering support had on him, and what drives him to be so successful in basketball and in life. Like *The Blind Side*, it's a gripping narrative filled with hubris, dangerous obstacles and heartwarming moments that transcend sports and speak to perseverance, hope and the triumph of the human spirit.

## Book Information

File Size: 891 KB

Print Length: 249 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1493011421

Publisher: Lyons Press (September 24, 2015)

Publication Date: September 24, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B015PMGAPQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #394,745 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #68

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoor > Basketball #126

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Basketball #251 in Books >

## Customer Reviews

We have been UConn fans forever (it seems ) and we loved watching Caron Butler when he played for the team. I have to say I was so blown away by his story that I immediatly ordered more copies and gave them out to friends kids in both middle and high school to read. We are all aware of some of the backgrounds of basketball players (Allen Iverson comes to mind) but I have never before read or heard a story so raw and expressive on what some of these players go through and what they overcome just to make it into college, much less into the pros. An amazing-can't - put- down book that should be in every middle school reading list and library. Thank you, Caron Butler!!

Could not put it down. Incredible story that inspires you to be a better person. A must read whether you are a basketball fan or not. Every young person on this planet would benefit from this story!!!! I promise you will not be disappointed. I'm reading it a second time!!!!!!

This is an amazing story of an amazing young man. I watched him play at UCONN but never knew his story. What he has done to overcome his adolescent life is a tribute to him, his mom, his grandmother and some other caring people along the way. What he gives back shows his character. This is a story for everyone.

For those of us who enjoy college basketball, we know, when watching a game, that many of the players did not have easy childhoods, perhaps scarred by poverty, drugs and other problems. Caron Butler ended up in prison before he was 16 years old for selling drugs. If you expect a story about this player's exploits at UConn and in the pros, you will be disappointed, there is only one chapter about each. But if you expect a book about redemption, about turning things around, this is a wonderful book for adults and for high school students.

Great autobiography. He is currently a member of my home NBA team and although he doesn't play often, I hope he is able to instill his insight into these young players. I read the book in a few days, could not put it down. I have a great respect for him.

I am a high school teacher. It is difficult sometimes convincing students from an extremely difficult background that there are opportunities and hope. Hearing the message from someone who lived it

and is now passing the message on holds much more weight than I could ever deliver.

MUST READ! Full disclosure - I am Caron Butler's publicist but it wasn't until I read his book that I totally understood his story and the magnitude of his success. In his humble approach to life he has never felt sorry for himself, and therefore never told me the complete story. Reading the book, I learned of the true hardship of his family life growing up, the trouble he got into as a young man (I knew it was bad but not as bad as it was), his narrow escape from what could have been a life without basketball or the NBA and then his climb from the depths to the success he has today. Gripping tale that is personal, emotional and educational for anyone to read. Also loved the role women played in his life and the true meaning of a mother's unconditional love for her son. If it wasn't for her . . . and his grandmother too. Caron is a winner and so is this book.

This is an amazing book with a really great story in it. The success of Caron Butler is great to hear about from beginning to end. It is a book that proves dreams can come true and it helps me in the classroom where I sometimes struggle finding ways to motivate students. I feel giving some students insight to this mans journey could help them think and feel different once they see someone just like they are found a way to be better overall. I enjoyed it.

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