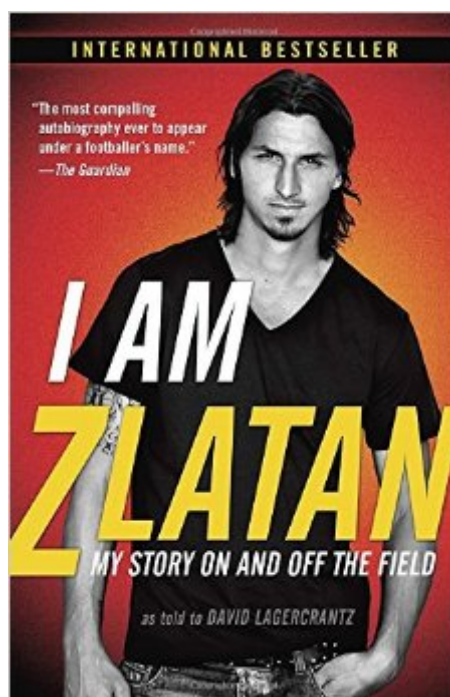


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I Am Zlatan: My Story On And Off The Field



Synopsis

Daring, flashy, innovative, volatile—no matter what they call him, Zlatan Ibrahimovic is one of soccer's brightest stars. A top-scoring striker and captain of the Swedish national team, he has dominated the world's most storied teams, including Ajax, Juventus, Inter Milan, Barcelona, AC Milan, and Paris Saint-Germain. But his life wasn't always so charmed. Born to Balkan immigrants who divorced when he was a toddler, Zlatan learned self-reliance from his rough-and-tumble neighborhood. While his father, a Bosnian Muslim, drank to forget the war back home, his mother's household was engulfed in chaos. Soccer was Zlatan's release. Mixing in street moves and trick plays, Zlatan was a wild talent who rode to practice on stolen bikes and relished showing up the rich kids' opponents and teammates alike. Goal by astonishing goal, the brash young outsider grew into an unlikely prodigy and, by his early twenties, an international phenomenon. Told as only the man himself could tell it, featuring stories of friendships and feuds with the biggest names in the sport, *I Am Zlatan* is a wrenching, uproarious, and ultimately redemptive tale for underdogs everywhere. Praise for *I Am Zlatan*—
• "Terrific . . . Far more insightful than your typical jock memoir, Ibrahimovic's book tells his story of growing up as the son of immigrants in Sweden and pulls no punches when it comes to his opinions of some of the biggest names in the game."
• "Sports Illustrated—The most compelling autobiography ever to appear under a footballer's name."
• "The Guardian—The story of Zlatan—from his days as an immigrant kid juggling a soccer ball so he won't get bullied to his emergence as the genius player who scored the greatest goal ever—is as compelling and fancy-footed as his game."
• "Aleksandar Hemon, National Book Award finalist and author of *The Lazarus Project*—I love this book. I love it because it's so much bigger than soccer. *I Am Zlatan* is a story of hope and grit and what an immigrant kid who comes from nothing can accomplish with hard work and belief in himself. It's also a beautiful window into our new, more open, more diverse world."
• "Marcus Samuelsson, bestselling author of *Yes, Chef*—Probably the bestselling European immigrant's tale since Zadie Smith's *White Teeth* . . . Once you get past the obligatory snigger prompted by the phrase 'footballer's autobiography,' you can see that Zlatan's book strangely resembles an earlier immigrant's tale: *Portnoy's Complaint*."
• "Financial Times—He is skillful. He is outspoken. He is Zlatan."
• "The New York Times—The best sports autobiography in years."
• "PolicyMic

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Customer Reviews

This is hands down one of my favorite "autobiographies." I purchased the UK version at Heathrow back in December and could not put the book down. (I tried reading a Messi bio afterwards and it was such a snooze-fest in comparison I still haven't finished it.) I loved the book so much, I purchased the US version to see if there were any noteworthy changes. (There's not and it is definitely worth a second read.) I loved Zlatan's honest, unabashed, attitude towards soccer and life. My only criticism is that this should be available in an audiobook. I would pay good money to hear Zlatan tell the story of Zlatan. I hope Zlatan finishes up his career in the USA so we can get an additional few chapters of in a future version.

I got this book for my 7 year old son who loves soccer and took it first to make sure it's good for him, unfortunately it wasn't for such a jung boy. The book is awesome and highly recommend it but for a little older people.

This is a good book for those who enjoy soccer and want to learn more about the inner workings of the professional soccer systems. While Zlatan tells us plenty about himself, he also tells us about coaches, relocations, contract negotiations, and what it's like to join a new team. He does a fine job proving that if one can stay true to one's self and work hard, success is sure to follow. Very good motivational book. I wish I had purchased this for my son when he was 10 and about to start playing soccer. Language is a bit rough for young kids, but I would have let my son read at 10-12.

This very down to earth book introduced me to one of the best soccer players in the world. Sadly,

most Americans probably have never heard of Zlatan Ibrahimovich from Malmo, Sweden. I hadn't, even though I have followed the World Cup for years. I recently visited Sweden, and wanted a book in Swedish to help me sharpen my language skills, this caught my eye because it is a best seller in Sweden. I ended up reading it in English too because some of the Swedish is not in a dictionary, and I just had to know every detail. If you enjoy soccer, if you like to know what drives someone to excel, if you want to understand the experience of an immigrant in a new land, this book is for you. It fed my post World Cup drive for more soccer stories.

Really good read. He contradicts himself constantly, but you get what he is trying to say. I like to peek behind the scenes of the football industry and this is the view from one of the most controversial, but incredibly talented footballers of the modern era. I picked up the book with a neutral, if not slightly negative view of Ibra, but put it down a definite fan. I would highly recommend this book.

Great Book. Not only do you see how Zlatan lived and learn about his life. You actually get a Soccer History lesson as you read this can't put down book. I thoroughly enjoyed the entire book and can easily recommend it to all Soccer Fans, not just Fans of Zlatan.

Written like the champ that he is, this book gives an in depth look at the wild ride that has been Zlatan's life. Beside the stories of his magic on the pitch are the stories that show you his strong love for his family, and how never forgetting where he came from kept him centered and helped him realize his dream.

My 13 year old son loves playing soccer and really gets into watching the professionals play. I bought him this book and the Pirlo book. He immediately jumped into this one, and is really enjoying it. Not sure that Zlatan is the best role model for all things, but he certainly exudes confidence in the pages of this book. The first chapter alone is an interesting view on his time playing for Barca. I've read bits and pieces, and there are some parts that may be somewhat inappropriate for younger kids (language including the sh** word). I'm just glad my son is interested enough to read a book because he enjoys it.

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