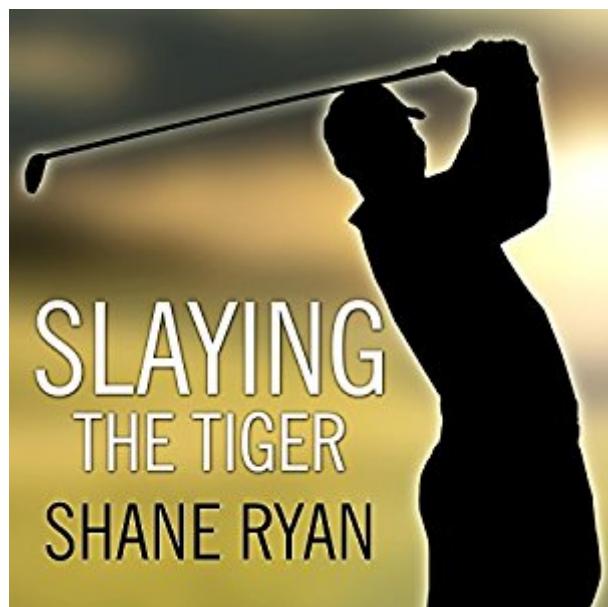


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# Slaying The Tiger: A Year Inside The Ropes On The New PGA Tour



## Synopsis

For more than a decade, golf was dominated by one galvanizing figure: Eldrick "Tiger" Woods. But as his star has fallen, a new, ambitious generation has stepped up to claim the crown. Once the domain of veterans, golf saw a youth revolution in 2014. In *Slaying the Tiger*, Shane Ryan introduces us to the volatile, colorful crop of heirs apparent who are storming the barricades of this traditionally old-fashioned sport. As the golf writer for Bill Simmons' *Grantland*, Shane Ryan is the perfect herald for the sport's new age. In *Slaying the Tiger*, he embeds himself for a season on the PGA Tour, where he finds the game far removed from the genteel rhythms of yesteryear. Instead he discovers a group of mercurial talents driven to greatness by their fear of failure and their relentless perfectionism. From Augusta to Scotland, with an irreverent and energetic voice, Ryan documents every transcendent moment, every press tent tirade, and every controversy that made the 2014 tour one of the most exciting and unpredictable in recent memory.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is very entertaining and provides many tidbits of background information that would normally not be available to fans. I find that this is exactly the kind of fresh book golf needs. It breaks out of the super-clean and tightly controlled journalism that normally goes with golf. The author says what he thinks and doesn't care who doesn't want to hear it. I would not be surprised if he isn't invited back to some places now that this book is out, but he seems to accept that willingly. He also makes it clear that some of the things are not just journalistic reporting, but he adds his own

opinion. I find that to be a positive and it makes the book more interesting. I didn't agree with everything (although I did agree with a lot of it), but I always found it interesting. I have heard some pretty harsh criticism about this book. On the Golf Channel, a reporter found herself "disgusted" by the author digging up background information. "Why does he bring in Patrick Reed's parents?" she asks, and points out she finds it inappropriate. I beg to differ! I can watch a tournament if all I care about is the score the player is able to play. If I want to know more about a player, then I read this book, and then I want to hear the background story. I never liked Patrick Reed much, and I now understand more about him. I actually like him a little better and feel more pity than dislike. And this is the kind of info I want from a book like this. Who knew that Dustin Johnson stole bullets for a gun that then ended up killing someone that very same day? I sure didn't. And I find that interesting back-story. As long as it is only a (small) part of the book (which it is).

Shane Ryan's "Slaying The Tiger" takes the reader inside the ropes, and behind the scenes, of the PGA Tour during the 2013-2014 season - a year that may well be remembered as the beginning of the end of the Tiger Woods era. Much as John Feinstein's book, "A Good Walk Spoiled" did 20 years ago, in the season before Tiger Woods made his professional debut, "Slaying The Tiger" goes beyond the television coverage, uncovering the up-and-coming crop of young guns who are stepping up to take command of PGA Tour golf as the once-dominant Tiger Woods falls further and further down the rankings and becomes less and less relevant to the game. Contrary to the impression of pro golfers as cookie-cutter, corporate clones who just want to look good in their scripted apparel and collect big checks for their product endorsements and tournament finishes, Ryan's book shows that many of them are complex, even quirky characters who have gotten into, and stick with, professional golf for a wide variety of reasons. Whether beloved by fans, like Jordan Spieth, Rickie Fowler and (sometimes) Bubba Watson; often reviled, like the polarizing Patrick Reed - or complete mysteries, like the enigmatic young Frenchman Victor Dubuisson, these players are shown to be quirky, sometimes even a little neurotic - and definitely driven by the desire to succeed at the highest level in a game that is played by millions but perfected by none. Ryan was a fairly experienced sportswriter when he started in on the task of researching this book, but new to the gypsy life of an embedded PGA Tour beat writer.

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