

I'm not a robot



























Buford's book is a raw and unflinching look into the world of football hooliganism. By immersing himself in the culture, he captures the essence of the thugs who wreak havoc on the pitch and beyond. With the ferocity of a Tom Wolfe and the grit of Hunter S. Thompson, Buford's prose is a visceral ride through the twisted underbelly of British football fandom. His accounts are both repugnant and exhilarating, laying bare the darkest aspects of human nature. Buford's writing has the power to disturb and unsettle, but it also offers a compelling explanation for the violence that plagues the sport. As a neutral outsider, he brings a unique perspective to the story, one that cuts through the conventional wisdom and reveals the ugly truths beneath the surface. His words have the fragmented accuracy of a hand-held television camera in a war zone, dropping the reader into the midst of the madness with unflinching honesty. From following Manchester's Red Army to drinking with skinheads, Buford's experiences are both captivating and terrifying. He witnesses scenes so ugly and alien that the individuals involved seem almost beside the point, consumed as they are by their own brutal impulses. The violence is a mind-altering experience for them, a way of letting go and releasing their pent-up energy. Buford's book is not just about the thugs themselves, but also about the society that spawns them. He notes that "violence is their antisocial kick, their mind-altering experience," and that this behavior is akin to that of animals. This is a damning indictment of human nature, one that raises uncomfortable questions about our own capacity for violence. Through his writing, Buford takes us on a journey into the heart of darkness, revealing the horrors that lurk beneath the surface of British football culture. His book is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the complexities of human behavior and the darker side of our nature. violence is a primal urge that drives these young men to unleash their aggression on the world. The streets of England are a battleground, where the weak are devoured by the strong, and the vulnerable are brutally crushed beneath the feet of the mighty. ===== They are the sons of a society that has lost its way, a culture that values brutality over compassion, and patriotism over humanity. Theirs is a world without empathy, where the only language spoken is one of hate and intolerance. They are the product of a system that breeds violence, where the strong prey on the weak, and the timid are silenced by fear. ===== Buford's account is a searing indictment of a society that has failed its young men. He exposes the dark underbelly of English football culture, where violence and aggression are celebrated as a badge of honor. The fans he follows are not just mindless thugs; they are complex individuals, driven by a toxic mix of nationalism, xenophobia, and desperation. ===== As Buford delves deeper into the world of British football hooliganism, he discovers a culture that is both fascinating and repulsive. He witnesses scenes of unimaginable brutality, where fans are beaten, stabbed, and killed with impunity. And yet, despite the horrors he sees, Buford cannot help but feel drawn to these men, who live in a world of chaos and anarchy. ===== Buford's book is a powerful warning about the dangers of unchecked violence and xenophobia. It is a cautionary tale about a society that has lost its way, and a culture that celebrates brutality over compassion. As we watch these young men rampage through the streets, destroying property and hurting people, we are forced to confront our own complicity in their actions. =====Among the Thugs: A Gripping Exploration of Boredom, Frustration, and Anger A Clockwork Orange meets reality in this haunting account of British soccer hooliganism, where violence serves as a means to awaken oneself. Bill Buford's 1990 work is a thought-provoking examination of the human experience, delving into the complexities of crowd behavior and the allure of violence. Buford's personal journey began when he boarded a train taken over by football supporters in 1982. This chance encounter sparked an eight-year investigation into the world of hooliganism, with Buford attending matches, befriending fans, and witnessing violent outbursts. Through his reporting, Buford sheds light on the psychological factors driving individuals to engage in such behavior. He suggests that violence serves as a form of escapism, providing an adrenaline-fueled experience that can be both pleasurable and addictive. This concept is reminiscent of substance abuse, with Buford arguing that crowds collectively make decisions regarding violence. The author's account is both captivating and unsettling, offering a glimpse into the festering soul of England during the 1980s. Buford's writing style is animated, witty, and piercing, making this book an unforgettable read. As a journalist and author, Bill Buford brings immense credibility to his work. A staff writer and European correspondent for The New Yorker, Buford has spent years honing his craft, editing various publications, and producing award-winning works like "Among the Thugs."terrorists could learn a valuable lesson from football hooligans, according to Danzig, former student of political guru Michael G. Kimber and senior advisor to U.S. President Barack Obama. According to Among the Thugs, Danzig states that "one of the best books I've read on terrorism in recent years is not about terrorism at all." Buford, Bill (May 1992). Among the Thugs: The Experience, and the Seduction, of Crowd Violence. New York, United States: W W Norton & Co Inc. p. 239. ISBN 978-0-393-03381-6. ===== Buford encounters representatives of the National Front, a far-right organisation seeking to expel immigrants from the UK and promote white supremacy. This ideology bears resemblance to the violent outbursts of some football fans, who feel insecure in an increasingly globalised world. These individuals tend to blame external factors for their failures, rather than acknowledging personal shortcomings. This mentality can escalate into extreme actions, such as issuing bomb threats or engaging in violent confrontations. Buford witnesses similar behaviour among supporters of his own team, who occasionally turn violent during matches. He also observes the National Front's connection to white-power groups and neo-Nazis, who often congregate around football teams. These gatherings can result in significant destruction and loss of life. Buford experiences violence firsthand during a 1990 World Cup match in Italy, where he is beaten by police for over five minutes. He later reflects on the motivations behind this behaviour, concluding that rioting provides an instant sense of connection to one's community and can be a means of asserting oneself in a society perceived as neglecting its working-class members.Among the Thugs: A Memoir of Unsettling Reality ===== Buford's Account Sheds Light on Unsettling Soccer Violence and Societal Issues ----- Buford's account presents an unsettling reality of soccer violence, highlighting the complexity of human behavior. An unsuspecting middle-class family man, Harry, shatters preconceptions by participating in horrific acts that leave Buford questioning the nature of violence and identity. The author struggles to reconcile his affection for these men with their abhorrent actions. The Crowd is Not Us: Human Nature's Darker Aspects ----- Buford's memoir serves as a striking reminder of how the need for connection can corrupt, pushing men to extremes to forge fragile bonds within chaos. From overcrowded stadiums to youth violence, Buford highlights the fluidity of morality within groups, especially under adrenaline-fueled situations. A Study on Group Dynamics and Socio-Economic Insights ----- Buford shows how collective behavior fuels violence and raises questions about societal acceptance of mob violence. Hooligans often come from varying social backgrounds, showcasing the absurdity and camaraderie found within these groups. Buford also depicts it as both comical and disturbingly violent. Key Takeaways ----- \* Collective behavior can lead to chaotic expressions of identity. \* The need for connection can corrupt individuals, pushing them to extreme actions. \* Group dynamics can blur the lines between humankind and barbarism. Reviews ----- Among the Thugs received positive reviews for its thought-provoking exploration of soccer violence and societal issues. Read a full review to discover more about this captivating memoir. Author Bio ----- Bill Buford is an American author and journalist known for his immersive style, focusing on unique experiences within different subcultures.Among Thugs is a book that delves the story of english soccer fandom in a most intriguing way, it's all about the passions of england's football fans and how they can be both violent and kind at the same time, ===== Disclaimer: This book summary is only meant to give you an idea of what Among Thugs is all about. Reading it will surely make your journey through england's soccer fandom even more thrilling. The Author, Bill Buford, has written a very interesting book about his experiens living in england for 18 years. He wasnt just a visitor, he was part of the community and got to see all the good and bad sides of english football fans. ===== He has recived alot of awards for his writting including a Marshall Scholar ship, a James Beard Award, and the Comune di Roma's Premio Sandro Onofri for narrative reportage. He is also a man of many talents and has been involved in various projects such as being the founding editor of Granta and publishing his own books.

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