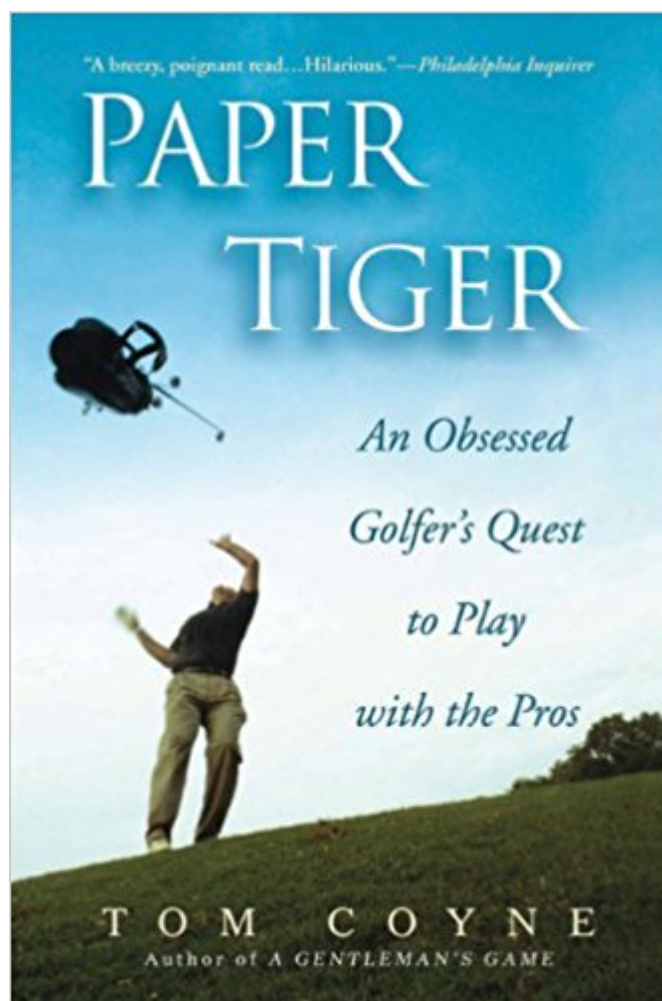


The book was found

# Paper Tiger: An Obsessed Golfer's Quest To Play With The Pros



## Synopsis

“Think country-club clinic meets Navy Seals training. I will pay any price, bear any burden, leave my home to follow the seasons, build my own swing studio in the basement, construct a practice green in my backyard. . . . Everything the big boys have access to, I want double.” Like most amateur golfers, Tom Coyne had often wondered whether the pros won because they were more talented or because they were more obsessed. Overweight and burdened by a 14 handicap, he decided to find out for himself what it takes to play like a pro. Charting his journey—which included hiring top golf gurus such as Dr. Jim Suttie—*Paper Tiger* takes readers from the Michelob tournament (a win for Tom) to the Australian Tour, where forty-mile-per-hour winds and a driving rain scare off his Japanese partners. With each chapter, he tracks his weight alongside his handicap, pursuing his dream with a reckless abandon that comes to involve hardcore diets, pricey technology, even psychologists. With echoes of *Dead Solid Perfect* and *Who’s Your Caddy?* Tom brings his uniquely edgy, deeply human perspective to a game that can simultaneously bring out the best and the worst in everyone who tries to master it.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The title is a sly acknowledgment on Coyne’s part of the karmic debt his memoir owes to George Plimpton, but while Plimpton merely finagled his way onto the PGA Tour, Coyne (*A Gentleman’s Game*) sets himself a higher goal: by dedicating a solid year to improving his golf game, he hopes to actually pass the qualifying school tournament that would allow him to compete as a professional. Believing that the difference between good and great golfers is consistency, Coyne moves to

Florida for the winter for intensive training with swing doctors and sports psychologists, staying out on the course until his hands bleed. He faces the inevitable (and sometimes unexpected) setbacks with resigned humor, as he comes to realize that his year's age difference with Tiger Woods is the only thing he'll have in common with the champ. (In fact, it takes all the skill he can muster not to wind up DFLâ ""Dead [F---ing] Last.") Coyne treads a fine line between sarcasm and sympathy in his observations of his competitors, and though he occasionally gets lost in big-picture ruminations, his quest should resonate with weekend golfers who dream of going all the way. (June) Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

For all the low-handicap golfers who have ever wondered if they were good enough to play with the pros, here's the book to prove, once and for all, that, no, you're not good enough. Coyne, a freelance writer and onetime junior golf star, decided to see just how good he could be. Leaving his longtime girlfriend behind in Minnesota, he moved to Florida, aiming to work for a year at lowering his handicap to the sub-scratch range and then enter the notoriously grueling PGA Tour Qualifying School. This painfully funny, self-deprecating chronicle follows Coyne's odyssey: 75,000 range balls hit in one year, 15 shots shaved from his handicap, \$52,000 amassed in credit-card bills. The result: not nearly good enough to compete with the pros but more than good enough to tell the story of why. Every golfer who has ever set a personal goal and failed to reach it (and that's every golfer who has ever touched a club) will identify with Coyne's odyssey, laughing and crying all the while at the absurd complexity of this confounding game. Bill OttCopyright Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you have ever wondered how a golfer becomes a pro, or even said to yourself after a particularly good shot, "I can do what those guys on the tour can do" then read this book! It is an amazingly easy read, fun, comfortable, and written so well. I actually have read it twice just because it was so much fun! A great gift for any golfer! Tom Coyne is a terrific writer and he actually writes about his own experiences which feel so close as you read them!

This is a good read, but I feel like you have to be a golfer to really get it. Which is fine -- I'm as obsessed with the game as anyone, and Coyne's writing style makes it really enjoyable. You're laughing a lot, and the story moves briskly. I found myself making time to read it, wondering how good he'd manage to get and how his quest would turn out. I'd love to see a similar story from

someone who starts at a better baseline -- say a plus two handicapper -- to see if an already great golfer can get great enough to make it to the tour, rather than seeing if a pretty good player can make it to great. But this being non-fiction, we get the story he lived, and it's a good one. Recommended for all golfers. There is a lot of adult language, so wait until your kid's in high school if you're thinking about giving this to a youngster.

Amazing book! Gives you a look at what it would really be like to quit your job and try to make the PGA tour , This guy hired trainers and mental game coaches , the whole nine yards. In the end it was great entertainment to read and also might help some with what they could expect if they were to try that journey. Wish I could find my copy to reread lol.. Might just have to buy another copy! It's really that good

A wonderful story with insight that can't be found elsewhere. Enjoy the experience and identify with the authors experience. Thanks

Fun read and learn a lot about how the working of the business of professional and semi-professional golf. It does start to drag in second half though.

Tom Coyne allows the reader to live their life vicariously thru him for his yearlong journey. Any single digit handicap golfer who has wondered "If I could entirely devote one full year to golf, how good could I get". Well, Tom provides us with the answer. This book offers a great insight into one golfers dream, an insight to the love and devotion of one individual to a game called golf. It's more than a game, it's a way of life for many of us. There is a little bit of love story with a girl mixed in along with a love affair for the game of golf. This book is a must read for any golfer who wonders "How good could I get at golf? Would I stand a chance with the best golfers in the world?"

I read a review of this book in the local newspaper and it caught my interest. I purchased 10 copies to give out to my customers that play golf at least 2-3 times a week. It helped to build that all important customer relationship. I even included a training aid that is mentioned on page 222. Ouch! began giving them out before I started to read the book. But, once I started reading, I would tell the recipients that the first 25 pages were a slow read, but it picked up after that. People that play at least two times a week, live for that shot that makes the monetary and time investment worth it. These type of readers will enjoy this book more than the casual player that only plays a few times

a year.If nothing else the golf tips he wrote about i.e. pages 221-223 were worth the price of admission.

I've read this book a few times. If you love golf, you'll love this book. WARNING! You may not be able to put it down once you start!

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