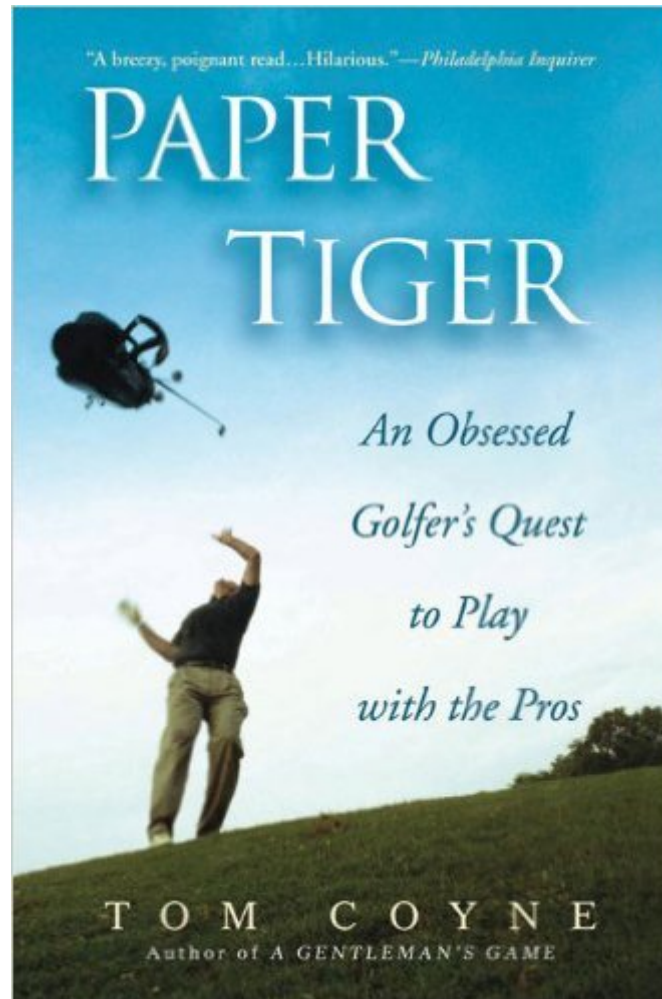


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# Paper Tiger: An Obsessed Golfer's Quest To Play With The Pros



## 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

I am a casual golfer who enjoys the time spent on the course with friends, and more comfortably, in the club house over a few beers. Often times when discussing the round just played, the conversation comes around to how much better we would all be if we could quit our jobs and just focus on golf. Paper Tiger puts that theory to the test. Tom Coyne's tale is one we could all only hope to one day (or one year) experience. The hilarious ups and downs Tom faces kept me turning

the pages and often reading passages aloud to my wife. I'm not the biggest reader, so the fact that I finished this book in 3 weeks will tell you that it was great. I recommend this to all golf lovers, and golf "widows" alike.

Intrigued by the book's premise and impressed by the esteemed critical acclaim on the cover, I picked up this book on a recent trip to the United States. I laughed, I cried, and I cried laughing as I read the book cover to cover on the 7 hour plane ride back to England. My only regret is that I didn't buy more than one copy, as my friends and the friends of my friends are now waiting eagerly to read the book which (as yet) doesn't have a UK release date! Tom's self-disciplined, determined quest to fulfil his dream, is the keystone of the book. However, it is the obstacles he encountered and his responses to them that provide the comedy, the tragedy and ultimately a love story about golf and a girl. I'd recommend this book to anyone who has ever tried to play golf; the husbands, wives, boyfriends and girlfriends of anyone who plays golf; and to anyone who had a dream and motivated themselves to do something about it.

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.

Also had some golf "truths" that improved my game. At least for the first few rounds after I read them. I can always revert back to higher scores. I think, though, I will always try to get to "Yes".

Maybe.

A fun read. As an avid, ever-trying to improve golfer, this brought both practical steps and a better appreciation for what the elite in this sport must endure. An amusing look behind the curtain of pro golf.

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

First things first, Tom can write. This book is an easy stroll and is often downright hilarious. It's really hard to put down once you start. In addition to his penchant for artful writing and hilarious anecdotes, he also offers up a good bit of insight and helpful hints should one be looking for tips on their game.-- slight spoiler alert --However, like others, I found it a bit disappointing that he boasted such great handicaps while playing 80 golf. This isn't a knock on his game. He's still better than 99% of golfers in the world. But if you're consistently shooting 80, 85, etc, you're not ready for tournament golf. And to me, it over exaggerates the already tough perception of how hard it is to compete even on the lowest tournament levels. It's presented as "even I as a + golfer struggled in these middling tournaments." But I doubt he was a true + golfer. If every time you play a tournament you post a 10 over, you're not a + handicap.-- end spoiler --In spite those critiques and the fact that some of the chapters about his personal relationships feel more like fillers, this is truly a riveting read. I couldn't put it down.

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