



Landing It: My Life on and Off the Ice

Scott Hamilton (Producer), Lorenzo Benet

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One of the most beloved sports figures in the world today tells his own story for the first time. -- Landing It was a New York Times bestseller for 4 weeks. -- Scott Hamilton is one of today's most universally admired and visible athletes. -- Includes personal stories about his close friends and colleagues, including Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinsky, Katia Gordeeva, Kurt Browning, Brian Boitano and others. -- Scott Hamilton has been enormously influential in making figure skating the most watched sport after NFL football. For more than two decades, incomparable figure skater Scott Hamilton has earned the admiration and won the hearts of people everywhere. Now, in Landing It, Scott Hamilton shares a lifetime of reaching for the stars -- and always beating the odds. He vividly recounts the highs and lows, the victories and defeats, of his remarkable life and career, including his brave battle against cancer and triumphant return to professional skating. With stunning candor, he offers a rare glimpse inside the world of skating superstardom. Scott Hamilton's honors include: -- U.S. Olympic Committee Athlete of the Year -- 4-time United States Champion and 4-time World Champion -- Olympic gold medallist -- Inducted in to the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame and U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame -- He has been the color commentator on CBS since 1985. -- He is the producer and star of the Stars on Ice tour, which is seen by more than 1.1 million people each season.

Landing It: My Life on and Off the Ice Details

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From Reader Review Landing It: My Life on and Off the Ice for online ebook

S.J. Tyson says

"Landing It" is the autobiography of American figure skater Scott Hamilton. The book covers his personal and professional life from his childhood through adulthood. Published in 1999, the information is not completely up to date (since the book was published he has moved more fully into his post-skating career, as well as dealt with a recurrence of his cancer). Regardless, if you are a fan of Scott Hamilton, or of figure skating in general, this book is an interesting read. He is honest and forthcoming regarding himself and others, discussing aspects of his life that were surprisingly different from his public persona. He was not perfect in all his actions and choices, and he openly says so. It would be nice to have a sequel to this book, or at least a revised version updated to include the last 18 years since this was originally published.

Martina Frammartino says

Quando ho iniziato a guardare pattinaggio su ghiaccio Scott Hamilton era già un mito. Sapevo che Hamilton era basso, che era stato adottato, che da bambino era stato malato e che aveva iniziato a pattinare come terapia. Saperlo, come semplice informazione data da un cronista, non lo fa capire davvero come invece avviene con questo libro. Il fatto di essere stato adottato per lui non è mai stato un problema, l'altezza e la salute sì. I medici hanno fatto chissà quante ipotesi, dal nanismo alla fibrosi cistica, gli hanno pure pronosticato solo una manciata di mesi di vita, quando andava alle scuole elementari, tanto appariva piccolo e debole. Poi per caso è andato a pattinare e le cose sono cambiate. Nessuno, ancora adesso, sa cosa avesse, quel che è certo che lo scoprìsi capace di pattinare meglio di tanti bulletti che lo tormentavano perché erano più grossi di lui gli ha dato fiducia, e insieme alla fiducia la salute è gradualmente tornata. Intanto lui ha iniziato a migliorare come pattinatore, anche se per arrivare a buoni livelli gli è servito il suo tempo, e ha dovuto affrontare difficoltà quali problemi economici – come tanti altri pattinatori – che lo hanno quasi costretto al ritiro e la malattia e successiva morte della madre a causa di un tumore.

E poi ci sono le gare, le difficoltà, i dubbi, il passaggio al professionismo e la necessità di inventarsi una nuova carriera, la nascita di Stars On Ice, la morte improvvisa di Sergei Grinkov e la sua stessa lotta, vittoriosa, contro un tumore. Una bella storia da parte di un uomo che ha sempre inseguito i suoi sogni e che non ha mai smesso di lottare.

Il testo completo: <http://sportlandiamartina.wordpress.c.....>

Melissa says

Written in Hamilton's trademark humor and style, the book follows his long journey as a sickly kid growing up in Bowling Green, OH to becoming one of the most celebrated male skaters in the world, and his struggles with cancer in his late 30s.

Sorry Scott, had to dock you a star for freaking me out reading about your experiences in Lake Placid while I was in Lake Placid competing at Adult Nationals. I blame myself for reading the chapter of your freeskate the very day I was scheduled to compete MY freeskate on the '80 rink.

Maggie says

I found the first half of the book more interesting than the second half. I well remember Scott's competitions as he was coming up in the Worlds and the Olympics. He was fun to watch grow both athletically and physically. I knew about his health problems, as well. This book filled in a lot of background information about his life, both before and after the Olympics, and he gives us a lot of information about how skating competitions were then and are now structured. He also gives us information on many of the other skating stars, their particular skating talents, and how they matured before and after the Olympics. A worthy read.

Marguerite Nico says

Scott Hamilton is one of my favorite skaters. This book was well presented. It wasn't a "pat yourself on the back" book, as many biographies can be. Instead, he presented himself as a real human being, with many issues. I learned a lot by reading this book. I had absolutely no idea that Scott had lost his mother to cancer or even that he was extremely ill as a young child.

Alissa says

he comes across as a spoiled, privileged child and entitled, white, male, adult. also, his publishers couldn't have put together a more "safe", ultimately boring interpretation of scott's life.

Tristi says

I've been an avid figure skating fan my whole life, so it was fun to learn more about Scott Hamilton and hear some of the behind-the-scenes stories. I think what I liked the most was the fact that Scott told his story simply, without making himself out to be the hero in every situation but admitting his fallibility, which of course made me like him even more. This book was enjoyable and will definitely be a must-read for skating fans.

Linda says

A great story about an athlete I greatly admire. Scott tells his story of overcoming obstacles and his career in figure skating. Being a huge figure skating fan, I loved hearing the inside stories of the olympic, World and National competitions as well as his relationships with the other skaters. The way he handled his health crisis is truly inspirational.

Surreysmum says

This is a good read: personal, anecdotal, and well balanced over the course of Hamilton's lengthy career, without undue emphasis either on the competitive end or the health problems which bracketed his career, although both are addressed. I enjoyed his accounts of tour life, and his appreciative comments about his colleagues.

Dana Tuss says

Dated, and I've just recently read a later book of his, but still couldn't put it down. He's such a fascinating guy — and honest. So many moments brought tears to my eyes.

Linda says

Scott Hamilton and I were born in the same town in the same decade. We learned to skate on the same ice and both of us dreamed of Olympic gold. He started his lessons when his age was a single digit. I started mine when I became single again.

I have been in love with ice skating since Peggy Fleming won the gold in Grenoble. Having Scott Hamilton in the Olympics brought the northwest corner of Ohio rooting for the hometown boy.

It was interesting to see behind the scenes in the ice skating with many familiar skaters.

Hamilton comes across as a considerate, self-reflective, caring person. His recollection of the death of Sergei Grinkov is so poignant brought tears to my eyes.

Despite that loss and those of both of his parents and others and his own bouts with cancer, Hamilton manages to keep positive.

The book has two errors that only someone native to the Toledo area would notice that I was tickled to note. This book was written in '99 before he was married and had children. It would be nice to hear about his life in the last 15 years.

Katie says

I enjoyed this book very much. Scott Hamilton is one of the most inspirational skaters ever and not only is a tremendous athlete but has also pushed the sport of figure skating into something better than it was.

Watching his career both amateur and professional was never anything but a pleasure. His personality and persistence of surviving whatever life throws at him is shared in great detail in this book. This book is a must read for skaters.

Sheri says

I confess, I only read the beginning and the end of this book. I already had a pretty good idea of what happened in the middle, and I have so many books in my queue that I just decided I would limit my reading to what I was really interested in-and that was the adversity Scott faced early in his life and when he was diagnosed with cancer. He is a likable person, partly because of the courageous way he has dealt with adversity, but I think it would take a true skating fan to plug through the whole book.

Julie says

I enjoyed the book. Liked hearing some of the background stories and was impressed how long some of these skaters have known each other.

But there was a lot of technical stuff that I just skipped over because I had no idea of what he was talking about. :)

Chances are I'll read it again down the road. Gotta nail on it for awhile.

Jo Oehrlein says

Autobiography of Scott Hamilton's life up through 1999. It chronicles him learning to skate, his mother's death, his skating benefactors who helped him keep skating when his parents couldn't afford it, his time in competition (amateur and pro), some of his romances (notably Kitty Carruthers and Karen Plage), and his diagnosis with testicular cancer and subsequent return to skating.

It's interesting to me because he talks of the people I grew up watching skate -- Tai and Randy Babilonia, Robin Cousins, Kurt Browning, Brian Orser, Brian Boitano, Rosalyn Summers, Kristy Yamaguchi, etc.

Scott is overwhelmingly positive in the book, although he's very willing to point out when he screwed up by not working hard enough or having a bad attitude or by not having enough confidence.
