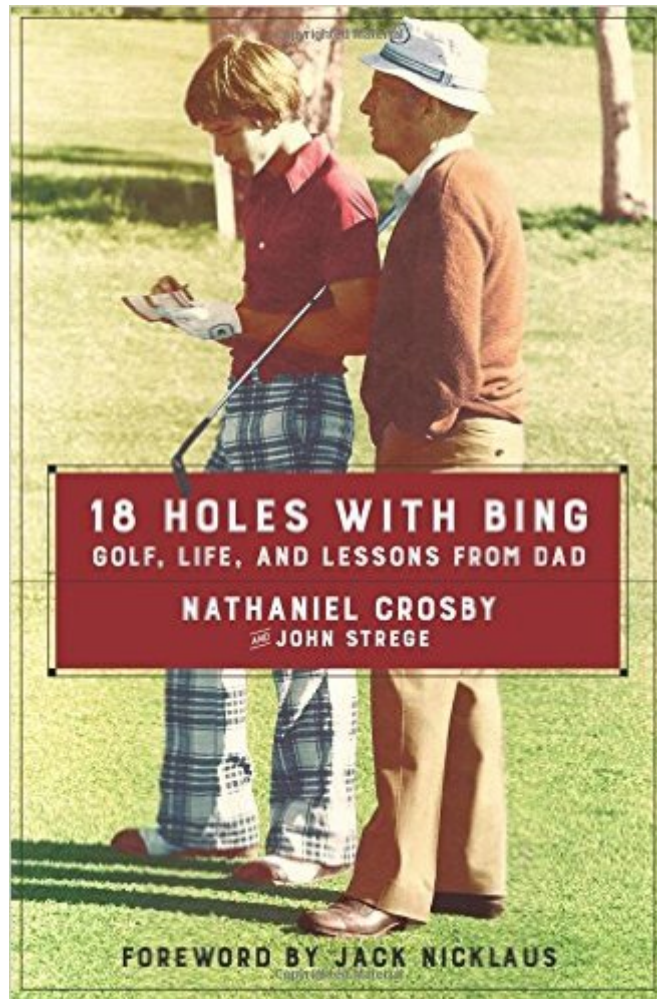


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18 Holes With Bing: Golf, Life, And Lessons From Dad



Synopsis

In this love letter to his father, former professional golfer Nathaniel Crosby shares memories of Bing Crosby on the golf course, and the lessons he taught him about the game and about life. With a Foreword by Jack Nicklaus.â œBing Crosby was a great ambassador for our game, as well as a great man,â • hails longtime friend and golf partner, Jack Nicklaus. The beloved singer and star was also an extraordinary teacher who instilled an abiding passion and mastery of the game in his youngest son, Nathaniel. Winning the US Amateur at nineteen, Nathaniel went on to compete in high-level professional tournaments for his entire life. In 18 Holes with Bing, Nathaniel introduces us to the Bing Crosby he and his family knewâ ”not the beloved singer who played golf, but a golfer who sang to pay his country club dues. Nathaniel shares exclusive stories about this American icon golfing, working, and playing with some of the most famous people in historyâ ”royalty, titans of industry, stars of stage and screen, and champions of the green, including Bob Hope, Dwight Eisenhower, Ben Hogan, Jack Nicklaus, and Louis Armstrong. At the bookâ ’s heart is an intimate account of a father and a sonâ ”how a mutual love of golf formed an exceptional emotional bond. Full of anecdotes, vignettes, and recollections of Bingâ ’s time on the course, the tournaments he created and later sponsored, and the constant encouragement he showed his son, 18 Holes with Bing honors this celebrated golfer, entertainer, and father, and illuminates his life as never before.

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Customer Reviews

The way that Bing Crosby chose to bond with his son, Nathaniel, was on the golf course. Not surprisingly, the boy enjoyed the attention and took to the links as enthusiastically as his famous

father. In this gentle paean to Bing, Nathaniel, with sportswriter John Strege, recalls growing up with a dad who, as The Times of London once stated, was a singer more listened to than any mortal in human history • --- but who was just about as happy playing a round of golf. It is impossible to write about Bing Crosby without writing about other greats of the 20th century entertainment pantheon --- such as Bob Hope, Phil Harris, Louis Armstrong and Grace Kelly --- as well as icons from other spheres, including Presidents Eisenhower and Kennedy, and oilman George Coleman. But Bing was equally at home with golfing greats like Ben Hogan and Arnold Palmer, and with the Hollywood celebrities --- James Garner, Burt Lancaster and George C. Scott --- who were drawn to the links as powerfully as he was. Bing once said that, for him, playing golf was a wonderful relief from tensions, from the problems of show business. At the top of his singing game by the time World War II broke out, Crosby and his comedic sparring partner, Hope, volunteered to serve --- and serve they did, as entertainers. Those experiences overseas sealed Bing's lifelong love of the British (and their golf courses) and led to Nathaniel and his siblings being raised in part by an English butler and nanny who later worked for Prince Charles and Lady Diana. Never totally spoiled, Nathaniel grew up in a whirlwind of golfing adventures, pushed to excel by his watchful father. When he was 19, Nathaniel won the U.S. Amateur, soon followed by the Porter Cup.

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