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# My Turn: The Autobiography



## Synopsis

Johan Cruyff is widely regarded as one of the greatest players in football history. Throughout his playing career, he was synonymous with Total Football, a style of play in which every player could play in any position on the pitch. Today his philosophy lives on in teams across Europe, from Barcelona to Bayern Munich, and players from Lionel Messi to Cesc Fabregas. *My Turn* tells the story of Cruyff's life starting at Ajax, where he won eight national titles and three European Cups before moving to Barcelona, where he won La Liga in 1973, his first season, and was named European Footballer of the Year. He won the Ballon d'Or three times and led the Dutch national team to the final of the 1974 World Cup, famously losing to West Germany and receiving the Golden Ball as the player of the tournament. While on the field Cruyff was in total control, off the field his life was more turbulent, with a kidnapping attempt and bankruptcy. After retiring in 1984, he became a hugely successful manager of Ajax and then Barcelona, where he won the Champions league with a young Pep Guardiola in his team. In 1999 Cruyff was voted European Player of the Century and came second behind Pelé in the World Player of the Century poll. In March 2016 Cruyff died after a short battle with lung cancer, bringing world football to a standstill in an outpouring of emotions. Johan Cruyff was a brilliant teacher and analyst of the game he loved, and *My Turn* is his legacy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is easy to read and filled with insightful information about soccer and life lessons. Cruyff tells about his youth, his own development, his rise to greatness, how he transformed the game of

soccer to create "Totaal Voetbal", his three years as a player in the US and his ideas about soccer in general. A must read for any one who wants to know more about soccer from the greatest mind the game has known, you will be much enlightened. It is as if you get a look into Cruyff's mind. He taught and inspired Pep Guardiola amongst many others. One point of criticism: the translation job from Dutch to English is sub par and just plain bad at times. For example, the locker room is called changing room or clothing room. Clothing room is a non existent word, changing room is British.

Excellent insight in his vision of how he thinks the game should be played. At times too focused on political battles at Ajax and Barcelona. Very opinionated character but for someone that can walk the walk he can talk the talk. In terms of tactics keeps it simple but thought provoking more decisions based on position rather than possession, team spacing and movement. Must read for all aspiring coaches at any level.

A truly inspirational look into the mind of one of football's greatest innovators. Not only that, Cruyff is insightful beyond the pitch and provides words to live by to aspire to be a kind, compassionate human being.

Anyone involved with football knows what does Mr Cruyff stand for. Therefore, this is a must read if you are seeking to understand some old issues in a novel way. Recommend!

Wery fine book! A piece of football history, shown to us by a player and a coach who made this history so great and beautifull. Absolutely brilliant book, written by a genius.

This book is a amazing read. I recommend anyone who is a sports and or soccer player because you can learn nothing is impossible.

Interesting but not eye opening. Expected more on key matches and tactics but instead far too much on intrigue at Ajax. Prob would not have bought it in retrospect.

This book is a "must read". Cruyff's philosophy from his own point of view.

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