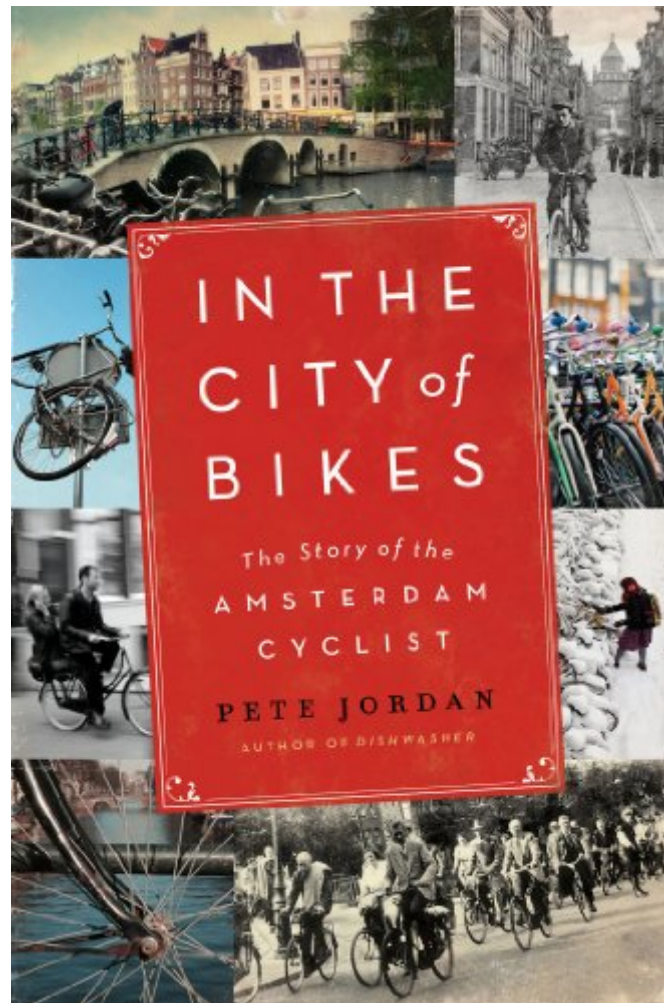


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# In The City Of Bikes: The Story Of The Amsterdam Cyclist



## Synopsis

Pete Jordan, author of the wildly popular *Dishwasher: One Man's Quest to Wash Dishes in All Fifty States*, is back with a memoir that tells the story of his love affair with Amsterdam, the city of bikes, all the while unfolding an unknown history of the city's cycling, from the craze of the 1890s, through the Nazi occupation, to the bike-centric culture adored by the world today. Pete never planned to stay long in Amsterdam, just a semester. But he quickly falls in love with the city and soon his wife, Amy Joy, joins him. Together they explore every inch of their new home on two wheels, their rides a respite from the struggles that come with starting a new life in a new country. Weaving together personal anecdotes and details of the role that cycling has played throughout Dutch history, Pete Jordan's *In the City of Bikes: The Story of the Amsterdam Cyclist* is a poignant and entertaining read.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

We love this book. My wife is Dutch and we met in her home city of Amsterdam. During her life in Amsterdam she used her bike as her sole method of transportation -- she did not learn how to drive

an car until she moved to America. Of course I purchaed a real Dutch bike as a gift and she proudly uses it. A black Dutch working bike along with a skirt protector which she uses it to retrieve mail at the post office -- she gets many great comments on her bike. This book brings back so many great memories for her, and she gives the book high praise for its history on biking in Amsterdam, mutch of which she was unaware of. Well written and very enteraining for anyone who has a knowledge of Dutch culture, we highly recommend the book for anyone who is a cycling enthusiast.

I read Pete Jordan having lived for 35 years in the center of the city, and because of his book I finally understand why the normally tolerant Dutch become feral on bicycles. It's a must read for anyone who wants to stay in Amsterdam without suffering bouts of rage directed at the cyclists in the city.

I misinterpreted the synopsis to start with so perhaps three stars is unfair. I am heading back to Amsterdam for a visit soon and was wanting to be enlightened on exploring Amsterdam by bike without reading a guide book. I was a little bit put off with the stats of who rides what in the first few chapters, although when I do arrive back there I'm sure I'll notice a lot more things I haven't previously (maybe even a nun on a bike!). I did, however, love the history bits, especially the cycling perspective during World War II (I'm survive never read anything similar, very clever). I also enjoyed going back and forth between the book and Google maps seeing how much I could remember about the intersections he was describing. Overall, an enjoyable factual and anecdotal read.

An excellent book for anyone interested in the potential of bicycling both as a very convenient form of urban transportation and as a way to make our cities more humane and livable. The book is excellently researched, and it has a nice combination of personal anecdotes with detailed historical quotes and references. I am very impressed with how much documentation the author included.

An excellent and factual account of the bicycle in Amsterdam. I have a bike tour company in Amsterdam (Joy Ride Tours), so history and bicycles are my passions. This book is enjoyable and reads quickly. Mr. Jordan entertains the reader on what otherwise could have been a tedious subject. Mr. Jordan blends personal stories with factual accounts of the history of biking in Amsterdam and the Netherlands. There are great bits regarding WWII. I highly recommend this book for anyone interested in bicycles or the history of Amsterdam from the 21st century, or any Amsterdammer.

Really enjoyable historical overview of cycling in Amsterdam interspersed with a bit of author autobiography.

Very amusing and insightful

Biking in Amsterdam is an adventure..to say the least. Since enjoying 2 Bike and Barge trips in The Netherlands I appreciate some of the challenges of being on wheels there. This was a fascinating story of acclimating as an immigrant to that beautiful country.

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