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Messi

Messi
By guillem
Balague

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PAOLA BRIA

Pele: The
Autobiography Orion
MARADONA is the
definitive new
biography of a true
global icon, from world-
renowned football
writer and journalist
Guillem Balagué. Diego
Armando Maradona
was widely acclaimed
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one of the most
controversial. In an
international career
with Argentina he
earned 91 caps and
scored 34 goals and
played in four FIFA
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unforgettable 'hand of
God' goal and
unsurpassed second
one in the 1986
quarter-final against
England, he captained
his nation and led
them to victory over

West Germany in the final in Mexico. His vision, passing, ball control and dribbling skills, and his presence and leadership on the field, often electrified his own team's overall performance. Maradona's club career included dazzling spells in his own country at Argentinos Juniors, Boca Juniors and Newell's Old Boys, and in Europe with Barcelona, Napoli and Sevilla. Yet his life was one of relentless media attention, including tales of drug abuse and constant health issues. Based on in-depth interviews and first-hand stories, Guillem Balagué's masterly biography represents a psychological and sociological approach to the legend. This journey of exploration takes Guillem to

Argentina, Spain, Italy and Dubai. Along the way, he asks what fosters such adulation, and how this adoration engendered a self-destructive personality. Even after his untimely death in 2020, Maradona continues to fascinate: his divine status seemingly preserved for ever. *Messi - 2019 Updated Edition* Orion Publishing Group
»Guillem Balague är en mycket bra berättare, och han komponerar storyn om världens kanske bästa fotbollsspelare genom tiderna på ett smart sätt, som stegrar aptiten. Boken är minst lika intressant att plöja som Zlatans självbiografi.« ANDERS SÄNNÅS LUNDQVIST, DN Nominerad till The British Sports Book Awards 2014 Detta är

berättelsen om Lionel Andrés Messi, pojken som alltid var minst på plan i barndomens Rosario och som blev den störste någonsin på Camp Nou. Han föddes i Argentina 1987 och var bara några år gammal när han började spela fotboll. Det tog inte lång tid innan FC Barcelona noterade hans potential, och som 16-åring fick han debutera i Barçás A-lag. Vid 26 års ålder är han i dag den störste skyttekungen i klubbens historia och Ballon d'Or-vinnare fyra år i rad. Det går inte längre att tvivla: Messi måste vara världens bästa fotbollsspelare genom tiderna.

Messi Orion

Lionel Messi and the Art of Living is a bold, insightful and unique

examination of a world famous sporting hero from an entirely new perspective, providing a context extending far beyond the football field. Although the details of Messi's story are already well known, this book studies afresh and anew his glorious triumphs and his desperate failures, his ongoing evolution and his endless struggle to succeed. It encourages us to analyze and think about his career from a different viewpoint, revealing how his journey can be related to our own lives on a meaningful and impactful level. Containing extensive and illuminating exclusive interviews with deep thinkers and high achievers from a number of fields, this book delivers a vibrant

and inspiring approach to a global icon. You will never look at Lionel Messi—or life—in the same way again. ANDY WEST has been writing professionally about soccer for 20 years, working in a number of different roles for the likes of Reading FC, Manchester City and the Football Association. Since 2012 he has been covering Spanish football for a variety of international media outlets, such as BBC Sport. “Leo is a generous and humble guy.” PABLO ZABALETA “He’s the greatest player in the history of the game.” BRENDAN RODGERS

Messi Dino Books

The updated edition of Luca Caioli's brilliant biography of Barcelona soccer star Lionel Messi, now covering

the 2017/2018 season.

Messi: Biografia
Independently
Published

MARADONA is the definitive new biography of a true global icon, from world-renowned football writer and journalist Guillem Balagué. Diego Armando Maradona was widely acclaimed as a genius. One of the greatest footballers of all time, he was also one of the most controversial. In an international career with Argentina he earned 91 caps and scored 34 goals and played in four FIFA World Cups. With his unforgettable 'hand of God' goal and unsurpassed second one in the 1986 quarter-final against England, he captained his nation and led them to victory over

West Germany in the final in Mexico. His vision, passing, ball control and dribbling skills, and his presence and leadership on the field, often electrified his own team's overall performance. Maradona's club career included dazzling spells in his own country at Argentinos Juniors, Boca Juniors and Newell's Old Boys, and in Europe with Barcelona, Napoli and Sevilla. Yet his life was one of relentless media attention, including tales of drug abuse and constant health issues. Based on in-depth interviews and first-hand stories, Guillem Balagué's masterly biography represents a psychological and sociological approach to the legend. This journey of exploration takes Guillem to

Argentina, Spain, Italy and Dubai. Along the way, he asks what fosters such adulation, and how this adoration engendered a self-destructive personality. Even after his untimely death in 2020, Maradona continues to fascinate: his divine status seemingly preserved for ever. *Barca Orion* El Pibe de Oro. The Golden Boy. Diego Maradona's unwaning shadow looms large over world football. In 2007 the brilliant Argentine chose Lionel Messi as his successor to the famous No. 10 shirt. But you can never be sure that potential will be fulfilled. Three years later, Messi – El Pulga, the Flea – is a European Champion, Olympic Gold Medallist, the most naturally

gifted footballer on the planet and a hero to millions of fans across the globe. Champions, reporters and coaches blunder time and time again in their haste to find superstars. This time they got it right. Aged only 22, he shows a degree of maturity rarely seen on the soccer pitch. Yet underneath the layers of footballing brilliance, he is still the shy boy who describes his Maradona moment with disarming simplicity: 'I saw the gap and I went for it.' Transcending both club and country, he is a sporting god who prefers homemade cookies to brand name perfumes. Author Luca Caioli draws on exceptional testimonies. Messi's parents, Celia and Jorge, his bother

Rodrigo and his uncles and aunts; his coaches at Grandoli and Newell's Old Boys; Charly Rexach, Alex García, Frank Rijkaard, Gianluca Zambrotta from Barcelona; Hugo Tocalli, Pancho Ferrero, el Coco Basile, Roberto Perfumo from Argentina. And to conclude, Leo Messi himself sizes up his life so far.

Brave New World Pan Macmillan

For years, the rivalry between Real Madrid and Barcelona has defined top-level European football. At its heart: a personal battle – Messi vs Ronaldo. Since they were first pitted against each other in 2007, the two men's domination of the record books has been unparalleled. Their styles, personalities

and footballing allegiances continue to divide opinion but one thing is beyond doubt: this is football's greatest ever head-to-head. In this new edition of *Messi vs Ronaldo*, updated to include all the action from 2016/17, Luca Caioli draws on the exclusive testimonies of managers, teammates, friends and family to tell the inside story of this momentous rivalry.

Pep Guardiola

Penguin

The story of one of the greatest footballers of all time, Lionel Messi. Lionel Messi's career has been a stellar ascent, and shows no signs as yet of slowing down. Born in Rosario in Argentina in 1987, he began playing football at a very young age, and it

wasn't long before his skill and potential was noticed in Europe by Barcelona. He debuted in the 2004-5 season, breaking FC Barcelona's team record for youngest footballer to score a league goal, and being part of the outstanding team that won La Liga that year. His breakthrough season was 2006-7, when he became a first team regular, and in 2008-9 he scored 38 goals to play an integral part in the team's triple-winning success. He surpassed this achievement in 2009-10 with 47 goals in all competitions, and again in 2010-11 with 53 goals. Since Pep Guardiola took over as manager of Barcelona in 2008, Messi has become Barcelona's all-time top scorer in

all official club competitions - at the age of 25. He scored an astonishing 91 goals in the calendar year 2012 alone. He won the FIFA World Player of the Year Award in 2009, and won the inaugural FIFA BALLON D'OR in 2010 and again in 2011 and 2012. He has also excelled on the international stage, playing for his national team. The diminutive Argentinian plays with a smile on his face at the most successful club in European football. He has even been praised by Maradona as his 'successor'. He is undoubtedly one of the greatest players of all time, possibly even the greatest. Guillem Balague's perceptive and compelling book goes to the heart of

the mystery - and genius - that is Messi.

A Season on the

Brink Icon Books
Features the life of Diego Maradona, from his poverty-stricken childhood to his emergence as the greatest soccer player of his generation.

Lionel Messi 2021

Carlton Books
A Financial Times Sports Books of the Year. Cristiano and Leo is the fascinating account of the lives and rivalry between two of the best footballers to ever play the game, Ronaldo and Messi, by Jimmy Burns the bestselling author of Maradona: The Hand of God. The rivalry between Ronaldo and Messi has defined football to a generation of fans - everyone has an opinion on who is the greatest. Do you

prefer Ronaldo whose work ethic and physique have been honed for one purpose – scoring goals. Or Messi, whose superhuman natural talent means he can do the seemingly impossible with a football. Between them they have scored over 1300 goals, won the Ballon d’Or ten times, and taken the beautiful game to even greater heights. But statistics alone cannot do justice to their skill, athleticism and dedication to stay at the top for so long of one of the most competitive sports in the world. Cristiano and Leo tells their definitive story, from children kicking a ball halfway around the world from each other to facing each other in the epic clash El

Clásico, between Real Madrid and Barcelona. This is the essential book to understand one the most compelling rivalries in sporting history.

The Barcelona Complex

Orion Messi: The King of Camp Nou is the definitive story of Lionel Messi's entire Barça career, written by Jason Pettigrove, a football journalist who worked for FC Barcelona during Messi's final years in Catalonia.

Lionel Messi (the Ultimate Fan Book)

Corinthian Biographical Portrait of Liverpool's Spanish football manager Rafael Benitez and an extraordinary season for the club. When Rafael Benitez was appointed manager of under-achieving

Liverpool at the start of the 2004-2005 season, the reaction of many fans was 'Who the **** is Rafael Benitez?'. The Liverpool fans had grown used to French manager Gerard Houllier but he had been a fan of the club himself since his days as a teacher on Merseyside. A Spaniard with admittedly a wonderful record at Valencia was going to take over management of Liverpool's famous Boot Room and try and win over a disillusioned Kop. But in one season, Benitez's importation of Spanish players, coaching methods and diet has led to a revolution, even usurping Jose Mourinho's Chelsea, whereby the team has ended the season winning the ultimate trophy for any

European club - the European Champions League. No fan will ever forget the comeback from a 3-0 deficit to a 3-3 scoreline, then dramatic success in the penalty shoot-out. This is the story of Rafa's remarkable success. *Football Superstars: Messi Rules* Aurum Lionel Messi is universally recognised as one of the greatest footballers of all time. From his childhood days kicking a ball on the streets of Rosario, Argentina, through his rise at the Barcelona academy, Messi has dribbled, dazzled and fired his way into the footballing elite. In this innovative biography, Messi's genius is explored and celebrated like never before: striking infographics illustrate

the brilliance of his performances in football's greatest occasions, illuminate his pitch coverage and ball skills, as well as, his outstanding goal-scoring feats – no man has scored more goals in a calendar year. Messi's talent, athleticism and eye for the game are showcased against his teammates, rivals and footballing legends. Analysing his years under the tutelage of Pep Guardiola, the overarching shadow of fellow Argentine great Maradona and his rivalry with Cristiano Ronaldo, Sanjeev Shetty charts Messi's rise into a player revered in equal parts for the goals he scores and the ones he creates. Through infographics, photography and

analysis, *Messigraphica* reveals the genius of Barcelona's greatest like never before.

Cristiano and Leo St. David's Press

The story of one of the greatest footballers of all time, Barcelona and Argentina's Lionel Messi. 'I have seen the player who will inherit my place in Argentine football and his name is Messi' Diego Maradona Despite all the fame and adulation, remarkably little is known about Lionel Messi, the modest and intensely private footballing genius. Just how did the boy from Rosario, Argentina, become the world's greatest player? Guillem Balague has had unprecedented access to Messi's inner circle: his coaches, teammates and family. In

addition, Pep Guardiola has provided exclusive analysis of the player. The result is an authoritative and compelling account of the wonderful mystery that is Messi. 'I can tell my grandkids one day that I coached Lionel Messi' Pep Guardiola

The Flea - the Amazing Story of Leo Messi Icon Books

In 2009 Real Madrid paid £80m, a then record fee, to sign a ready-made superstar in an effort to keep pace with a Barcelona side that had won it all. In doing so, they sparked a rivalry like no other; Messi vs Ronaldo. The seasons that have followed have been truly spectacular, the battle for supremacy increasing in profile and intensity all the while. Their styles,

personalities and footballing allegiances continue to divide opinion, but their dominance of the record books has now put one claim beyond debate - this is football's greatest ever head-to-head. Acclaimed football writer Luca Caioli draws on invaluable testimonies from those closest to the two stars, with exclusive insights from friends, families, teammates and managers, to tell the inside story of this fascinating rivalry.

Messi - 2013 Edition Orion Publishing Company

A revised look at the rivalry between two of the greatest footballers of our time.

Ronaldo Icon Books

This fully updated edition of the

international bestseller includes Pep Guardiola's Bayern years and his decision to join Manchester City. Pep Guardiola is the most successful and sought after football coach in the world. After being appointed first-team manager in 2008, he transformed Barcelona into arguably the greatest club side of all time, winning an unprecedented thirteen trophies in four years. Following a shock sabbatical from the game, he replaced Jupp Heynckes at the helm of Bayern Munich at the start of the 2013-14 season, twice winning the Double in his three years in charge. He then announced that he would be joining Manchester City for the 2016-17 season,

thereby beginning what could prove to be his greatest challenge yet: turning them into a team that consistently wins in the most difficult of leagues and a regular challenger in the Champions League . . . and doing it the Guardiola way. Guillem Balagué has followed Pep's career from the outset and has had direct access to the man and his inner circle. This then is the definitive portrait of Pep Guardiola and his relentless pursuit of footballing perfection.

A Season on the Brink Sole Books

The definitive biography of Cristiano Ronaldo, named Football Book of the Year at the Cross Sports Book Awards 2016 Fully updated to include the 2017-18

season and Ronaldo's transfer to Juventus Cristiano Ronaldo is one of the greatest footballers of all time, a dream he pursued from the age of just twelve when he left his humble origins on Madeira behind. It wasn't long before he had the biggest clubs in Europe knocking on his door, but it was Manchester United who won the race for his signature. Under the tutelage of Sir Alex Ferguson, Ronaldo developed into the complete footballer and athlete, winning three league titles and a Champions League along the way. He then became the biggest galáctico of them all when he transferred to Real Madrid for a record-breaking fee. Unprecedented success in the

Champions League and a record-equalling five Ballons d'Or followed, before his sensational move to Juventus in the summer of 2018. Guillem Balagué, respected football journalist and expert on the Spanish game, provides the definitive account of a twenty-first-century footballing icon.

Messi Sole Books

"Reading this playful portrait of Leo Messi reminded me how extraordinary every minute was that I spent by his side." PEP GUARDIOLA

SHORTLISTED FOR THE TELEGRAPH SPORTS BOOK AWARDS BIOGRAPHY OF THE YEAR In 22 short chapters, acclaimed Catalan writer Jordi Puntí explores the beauty, the genius and the obsession of Lionel

Messi. He takes us from the near-mythical scenery of a South American footballing youth to the glory and the struggle of a life on the international stage, capturing along the way our enduring desire to relive our experience of the beautiful game. "Jordi Puntí's stunning tribute to Lionel Messi will captivate football aficionados as well as fans of fine writing." Ian Sansom, Spectator "This is brilliant- I've been telling everyone about this book." Simon Critchley, author of What We Think About When We Think About Football "There's nobody better to write this book- which doesn't aim to explain Messi but to enjoy him... A joyous read." Simon Kuper, co-author

of Soccernomics "An eloquent celebration that can remind us of the thrill of a close encounter with a player whose skills have often led him to be described as 'alien'." David Horspool, Times Literary Supplement

Messigraphica
Weidenfeld & Nicolson
FC Barcelona are the greatest football team in the world, the greatest for a generation and possibly the greatest of all time. This is the inside story of how the team came to redefine how the game is played, told by the journalist closer to it than any other. This edition contains a new epilogue reflecting on the departure of Pep Guardiola and Spain's victory at Euro 2012.