



You Gotta Play Hurt

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From the author of *Semi-Tough* comes a hilarious novel chronicling one year in the life of irreverent sports columnist Jim Tom Pinch. "Bawdy, bitter, very funny...Jenkins's farewell salute to big-time sportswriting is a tell-all novel that deflates the hype around each and every event, from the Olympics to the Kentucky Derby to Wimbledon (*Kirkus Reviews*).

You Gotta Play Hurt Details

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Author : Dan Jenkins

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From Reader Review You Gotta Play Hurt for online ebook

Dan Olson says

I read this book several years ago. It was very well-written and a highly entertaining read.

Michael says

This book validates every stereotype about sportswriters, Texans, and magazine editors. The fact that there is absolutely no plot at all doesn't keep Jenkins from making some very off-color jokes.

Dave says

Story of my life as a sportswriter, only a hell of a lot more interesting. Dan Jenkins could write about golf and it would be -- oh wait, he does that and it is. Anyway, it's a year in the life of Jim Tom Pinch, who has appeared in several Jenkins novels previously. This time Jim Tom has the dream job: a columnist at a national sports magazine with three psychotic ex-wives, two crazy lovers, a "shitheel" for a boss, a good-for-nothing itinerant of a son and one terribly interesting and funny year on the job. Until recently, I held this book as the blueprint for my life. Impossible to find outside of used stores (best \$2 I ever spent) but if you know me and put up collateral I'll let you borrow it. Priceless.

David says

Very funny!

Luis Perez says

Fiction. A humor-filled novel about big-time sports and sportswriting. Jim Tom Pinch travels the globe, chronicling the often absurd world of sports while juggling ex-wives, love interests, butchering editors, oily executives and a wayward son.

Dan Jenkins is probably the greatest living sportswriter. The man has such a deft touch; his words are like a smooth putt on Augusta's lush greens. This isn't his best book but it's pretty damned good.

J.P. says

Absolutely, positively, my favorite book. Hands down. End of story.

Starbuck says

Jenkins is a great satirist. His send up of the Final Four alone is worth the read.

J.K. George says

Not sure who recommended this one ... probably one of my cousins who played a lot of sports in Kentucky. It has sat on my bookshelf for a year or two and suddenly, with a couple of "free weeks" of reading between book club selections, I picked Jenkins' book up and really got a kick out of it. It's obvious that he knows the score (key the pun music) and has for years. The basic plot, if there is one, is to take the reader through a year's worth of a potpourri of sporting events of all sorts, in lots of different places, and give one the insider "dope" on that it's like to the grizzled ol' pros who cover them. Some of these are extremely "insider-like," especially some of the big golf events and college football games, but some are pretty hit and miss, and the characters, while winning the name-game of clever monikers, are usually over the top and then some. There are a few chapters that were on the lame side, but most are clever and quite a few left me laughing out loud.

The descriptions of minorities are a bit non-PC for this time and age, and the use of the N-word is over the top. Generally, the minorities are dissed pretty soundly. There is sex ... a lot of it at times. The non-athletic part of the plot involves work place politics and the old who-gets-ahead theme, and is not a super heavy-weight contributor, but if you want a read that moves fast, very fast, from theme to theme, and will keep you shaking your head with belief and non-belief, this book is a hoot. JKG

Jim Townsend says

I thought it was really good, quite hilarious.

Scott says

Just a funny, solid view of professional athletics from one of the best sports journalists of our time.

Diener says

I think this book is out-of-print. What a crime! Dan Jenkins is hilarious. This book takes the reader on a wild journey with an irreverent fictional sportswriter as he covers the world's biggest sporting events during the course of a calendar year. My colleague and friend Dave Shelles introduced me to Jenkins and to this book when we were both sportswriters for a daily rag in suburban Dallas. The book changed my life, for better and for worse. I absolutely love it, and recommend it wholeheartedly to anyone who likes sports, is not offended

by politically incorrect humor and appreciates excellent writing.

Richard Lister says

If you want to laugh out loud, this is your book. Dan Jenkins at his most hilarious, spinning the tales of Jim Tom Pinch, cynical sports writer and amiable ex husband. This may be his funniest book. You can reread it and still laugh.
