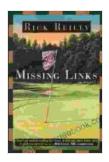
### The Missing Links: Rick Reilly's Journey to Uncover Golf's Greatest Mysteries

Rick Reilly, renowned sportswriter and golf enthusiast, embarked on a fascinating quest to uncover the lost legends and forgotten stories that shaped the game of golf. His book, "The Missing Links," is a captivating journey into the heart of golf's enigmatic history, revealing the extraordinary lives and contributions of players, caddies, and course architects who left an indelible mark on the sport.

#### **Exploring the Uncharted Territories of Golf History**

Reilly delves into the annals of golf history, unearthing lesser-known figures and unraveling the obscure corners of the game's evolution. He introduces us to Willie Auchterlonie, the legendary Scottish caddie who became a renowned course designer, shaping some of the world's most iconic courses, including St. Andrews and Royal Dornoch. Reilly also sheds light on the remarkable story of Charlie Sifford, the trailblazing African American golfer who overcame adversity to become the first Black man to play in a PGA Tour event.



#### Missing Links by Rick Reilly

★★★★★ 4.6 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 617 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 226 pages



#### The Enigmatic Figures of Golf's Golden Age

Reilly's narrative transports us back to golf's golden age, introducing us to the enigmatic characters who defined an era. He unravels the complex relationship between Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen, two of the greatest players of all time, whose rivalry and mutual respect transcended the game itself. Reilly also explores the life and impact of Harry Vardon, the English golf prodigy who dominated the sport in the early 1900s.

#### The Caddies and Course Architects: Unsung Heroes of Golf

"The Missing Links" shines a spotlight on the often-overlooked contributions of caddies and course architects. Reilly highlights the importance of caddies like James Braid's trusted partner, Harry Vardon, and Ben Hogan's long-time caddie, Jimmy Demaret, whose insights and support played a pivotal role in their success. He also delves into the minds of renowned course architects like Alister MacKenzie and Donald Ross, who created some of the most challenging and beloved courses in the world.

#### The Lost Legends of the Game

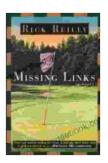
Reilly ventures beyond the well-known names in golf, uncovering the stories of forgotten legends who left their mark on the game. He introduces us to Young Tom Morris, the prodigious Scottish golfer who won four Open Championships in the 1860s and 1870s, and Tom Simpson, a British golf course architect whose work is still revered today. Reilly also pays tribute to the forgotten women golfers of the early 20th century, like Alexa Stirling and

Joyce Wethered, whose achievements paved the way for future generations.

#### **The Timeless Spirit of Golf**

Throughout "The Missing Links," Reilly weaves together the threads of golf history, connecting the past with the present. He explores the enduring legacy of some of golf's greatest figures and demonstrates how their contributions have influenced the game we play today. Reilly's writing captures the timeless spirit of golf, highlighting its ability to transcend generations and unite players from all walks of life.

Rick Reilly's "The Missing Links" is a must-read for golf enthusiasts and anyone fascinated by the captivating stories behind the game. Reilly's masterful storytelling brings to life the forgotten legends, unsung heroes, and enigmatic characters who shaped the history of golf. Through their journeys and contributions, "The Missing Links" reveals the enduring spirit of the game and the timeless pursuit of excellence that continues to drive golfers around the world.



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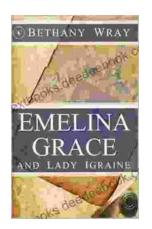
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