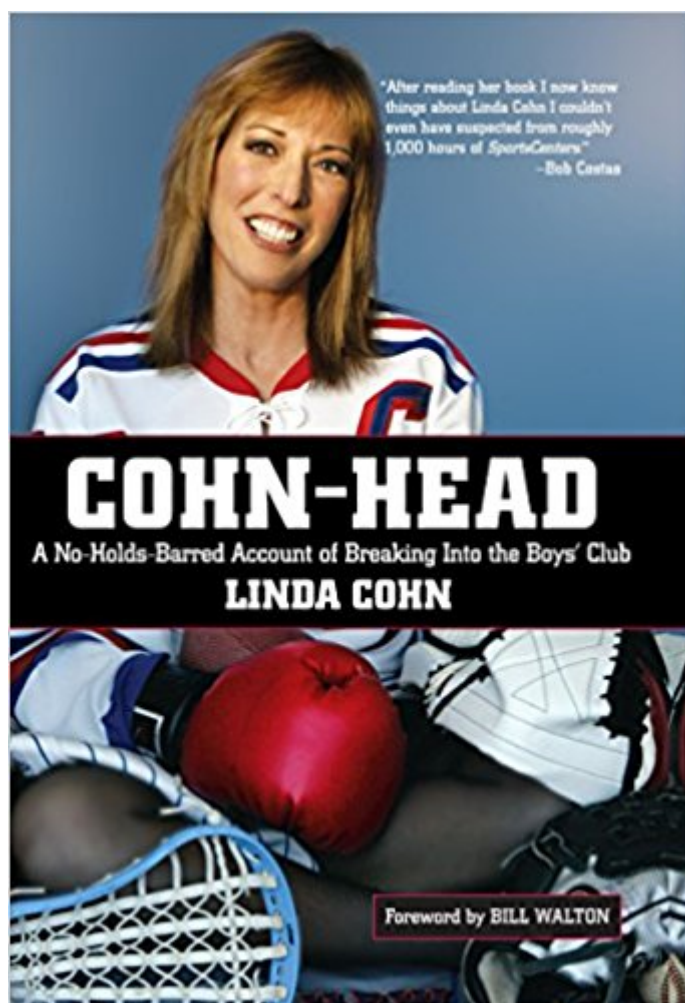


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Cohn-Head: A No-Holds-Barred Account Of Breaking Into The Boys' Club



Synopsis

In "Cohn-Head," one of America's most successful female anchors lays bare her hard-fought rise to the top of the sportscasting boys' club and her life inside the ESPN empire, talks candidly about sports personalities she has met, and reveals her personal top ten lists plus much, much more. After tracing her upbringing in a dysfunctional family, Linda Cohn tells how she became a diehard sports fan and a goalie on her high school (boy's) hockey team--setting the stage for college hockey stardom, when she was affectionately known as "Cohn-Head" by her teammates. From here she moves on to her first break in sportscasting. Along the way she describes her close encounters with the likes of Michael Jordan, Matthew McConaughey, and Jay Z. Written with verve, "Cohn-Head" is a riveting read--a must for sports fans male and female alike, as well as anyone who seeks insight into how one woman made a man's world her own.

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Customer Reviews

Fast, funny, entertaining and revealing. The best part? The unavoidable image in the reader's mind of Linda herself machine-gunning her own story at you like a fascinating edition of Sportscenter's Dah Dah Dah, Dah Dah Dah. Kurt Russell; Award nominated actor, star of Miracle and former second baseman for the California Angels. Lets put it this way. After reading her book I now know things about Linda Cohn I couldn't even have suspected from roughly 1000 hours of SportsCenters. And I have reached the following conclusion: Linda is the top Cohn-Head since Lorraine Newman. Bob Costas; Sportscaster, author of Fair Ball: A

Fan's Case for Baseball, winner of the Curt Gowdy Award, the Dick Schapp Award for Outstanding Journalism, and multiple Emmy Award and National Sportscaster of the year Award winner; Life isn't always pretty, but Linda's story is a beautiful one. It's a compelling tale of courage, perseverance, and ultimately hope. Her humor and authenticity shine through in every page and make it impossible not to become a fan. And truth be told, Mark Messier notwithstanding, Linda is the reason we won the Stanley Cup in 1994.

•Mike Richter #150; Former NY Rangers goaltender and 2007 Yale graduate; While reading Cohn-Head you will discover what I already know, Linda Cohn is not your typical sports journalist. She is genuine and passionate about sports, especially when it comes to the teams she grew up with like the Mets.

Linda doesn't throw you a curve, just explosive heat in her inspirational yet comical journey.

•Willie Randolph #150; NY Mets Manager, former All-Star for the National and American Leagues, winner of the Silver Slugger Award

"Wow!!! Linda Cohn's fascinating narrative of life and love in the testosterone driven world of American sports and ESPN is an excellent tale of one dynamic woman's charging crusade to have it her way. Cohn-Head bares it all personally and professionally; from battles won and lost, to dreams realized and shattered. As with all things Linda Cohn, we can't wait for what's next, and Cohn-Head is our time traveling spaceship with Linda at the controls; Hold on everybody and enjoy the ride!!!"

Bill Walton- Hall of Fame Basketball Player, former All-Star and MVP, ABC/ESPN sports commentator

Linda Cohn is far hotter than her 'girl in the locker room' persona would suggest. I've been with her backstage at a rock and roll show; I know.

•Kevin Cronin #150; Lead vocalist for REO Speedwagon; I enjoyed Linda Cohn delivering the sports on radio and TV before she ever made it to ESPN, and after all these years working alongside of her, the enjoyment is tenfold! She does it the old-fashioned way; Sports by a sports fan for the sports fan.

•Chris Berman #150; ESPN Personality; Cohn-Head is both painfully honest and laugh out loud funny, filled with anecdotes and insights. Come along for the journey of a self proclaimed child geek who grew up to be the swan of sports.

•Leslie Visser #150; CBS Sportscaster, first female sportscaster on Monday Night Football; winner of Pete Rozelle Radio-Television Award and Billie Award; Linda Cohn grew up on Long Island yet becomes a Big New York Rangers fan, then she goes to college at the snowiest place on earth where she excels as a goaltender. Out of college she gets into the man's world of TV sports and becomes a star. Who wouldn't want to read about this lady.

•Barry Melrose #150; ESPN

NHL Analyst, former NHL player and head coach; Linda Cohn has been instrumental in the advancement of women in the media. Her wonderful book tells her story so well. Tim Kurkjian; ESPN; Baseball Tonight analyst, author of *Is This a Great Game, or What?*; Cohn-Head is a candid, sweet, humorous and intensely personal story of one of America's most recognized and well-liked sports media personalities. Linda Cohn is courageous enough to be introspective in a way that gives us insight into her personal evolution, from the difficulty of busting into the boys' club that is the sports television industry to battling through her inner conflicts to become a mother and role model. The kind of juggling act her male colleagues can observe but never experience. Michael Wilbon; Co-host of ESPN; Pardon the Interruption, sports columnist for The Washington Post

The real challenge is when a baseball player comes up to you to do an interview and then drops his towel just as you're about to ask your first question. I know it's difficult for you guys out there to understand, just because it may be a fantasy of yours for a woman to come up to you in a locker room somewhere and drop her towel. But the opposite does not hold true. It really doesn't. In fact, it's a little creepy. One of America's most successful female anchors lays bare her hard-fought rise to the top of the sportscasting boys' club and her life inside the ESPN empire. She talks candidly about her own successes and missteps, and reveals her humorous, rewarding, and frightening interviews with sports personalities. Growing up in a dysfunctional family, Linda Cohn became a diehard sports fan and a goalie on her high school (boys') hockey team; setting the stage for college hockey stardom, when she was affectionately known as 'Cohn-Head' by her teammates. She got her first break in sportscasting by covering a team she hated. She discusses the sexual tension all too present both in the workplace and the locker room, and her close encounters with the likes of Michael Jordan, Matthew McConaughey, and Jay-Z. Written with verve, Cohn-Head is a riveting read; a must for sports fans of both sexes, as well as anyone who seeks insight into how one woman made a man's world her own.

"Cohn-Head" should be required reading for anyone who has a desire to ever work behind a microphone or in front of a camera. In this book, longtime ESPN anchor and correspondent Linda Cohn illustrates why sportscasting, as glamorous as it appears on the surface, is a gritty business to get into. Cohn gives a lot of credit to some of the women who went before her into a profession

traditionally dominated by men. And she also takes time to credit the men who helped open doors for her--including her husband, who sadly, at the time this book was written, was no longer with her. Although that marriage has apparently come to an end, Cohn understands quite clearly what she lost and why she lost it. But to get into and stay in the broadcasting business, Cohn definitely paid her dues--working multiple radio and TV gigs, moving across the country for more lucrative work, and doing stories on sports that were less exciting than what she liked. That's why she's one of the best in the business, in my opinion, and why she's such a treat to watch. Women like Linda Cohn are worth their weight in gold, to me, because they not only understand sports, they love sports. "Cohn-Head" is a good book, and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it.

I've watched Linda Cohn on ESPN for years and always had the impression of the consummate professional. Not only did she know sports, but she fit right in on the male-dominated screen. Linda was the first female sportscaster I watched on a regular basis, so I decided to read the book to hopefully go beyond the figure she presented on TV. I must say, I was shocked by the engaging, funny, honest, down-to-earth person I found between the covers of this book. The style is easy and flowing, her humor left me with a smile on my face, her honesty was so refreshing; Linda was equally as open with her failures as she was with her successes. I truly felt that I "met" Linda in this book; I heard a voice that went so far beyond the professional voice I hear on TV. Linda became a friend who made me feel that it's okay to fight for what you want and to fall down along the way as long as you pick yourself back up. While this is an inspirational book for younger women who may be filled with hopes about where they want to go yet harbor doubts about how far they can go, it is also enlightening for women like myself who have "grown-up" but still feel there is much to achieve. Men and women alike, young and old, will be doing themselves a favor by reading this book, spending time getting to know Linda, and learning about themselves in the process.

An enjoyable journey of Cohn's trials and tribulations to make it to the pinnacle of sports broadcasting.

Cohn is awesome!

Written well, just as if Linda was sitting next to you, telling the story to you. Would have been nice if she mentioned SportsChannel, though.

Even though it's billed as her breaking into the "old boys club", there really isn't much here about any gender discrimination that Linda may have faced and even when she brings it up, it's not highlighted. What the book really does is chronicle her life from growing up in the New York area to through her career as a one of America's premier sports anchors. That said, Linda's ability to relate to her audience helps make this book enjoyable. It was a fun read.

I read a lot of those hockey "auto"-biographies allegedly written by a player, coach, or other such individual - who actually sat down with some sportswriter, provided some background, and then let him or her do the actual writing. I enjoy the material, even though I know that the personality's words were interpreted by some professional journalist or other writer. Cohn-Head is just like that - sort of. But different. Linda Cohn's claim to fame isn't her hockey playing days, even though she did spend time in high school and college between the pipes for the school's team. It's that she's a journalist. SO ... the book goes off in different directions, and the author really IS the author, without someone else trying to organize her thoughts and put them in sentences that sound like the book's subject actually wrote them. Linda Cohn shows herself to be a lot more than "just" the pretty face on SportsCenter. As stated earlier, her love of hockey comes honestly with a college hockey background. Her career shows the benefit of hard work ... and breaks ... and not giving up because an earned opportunity doesn't come OR a challenge arises OR ... Before I read this book, I thought that Linda Cohn would probably be a very interesting person to have a lengthy conversation with - after reading this book, I know she would be. Perhaps the only weakness in the book is the weak ending ... but even there, it shows that her life and career is still moving forward, and picking a certain period of time to write your memoirs does not mean that the moment is going to end on a momentous event that wraps everything up! It's a quick read. Read it. P.S. Several of the reviews I've read mention Linda's self-admitted self-absorption. Yes, the book centers around her - but it's her frickin' autobiography, what did you expect / want it to be about??

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