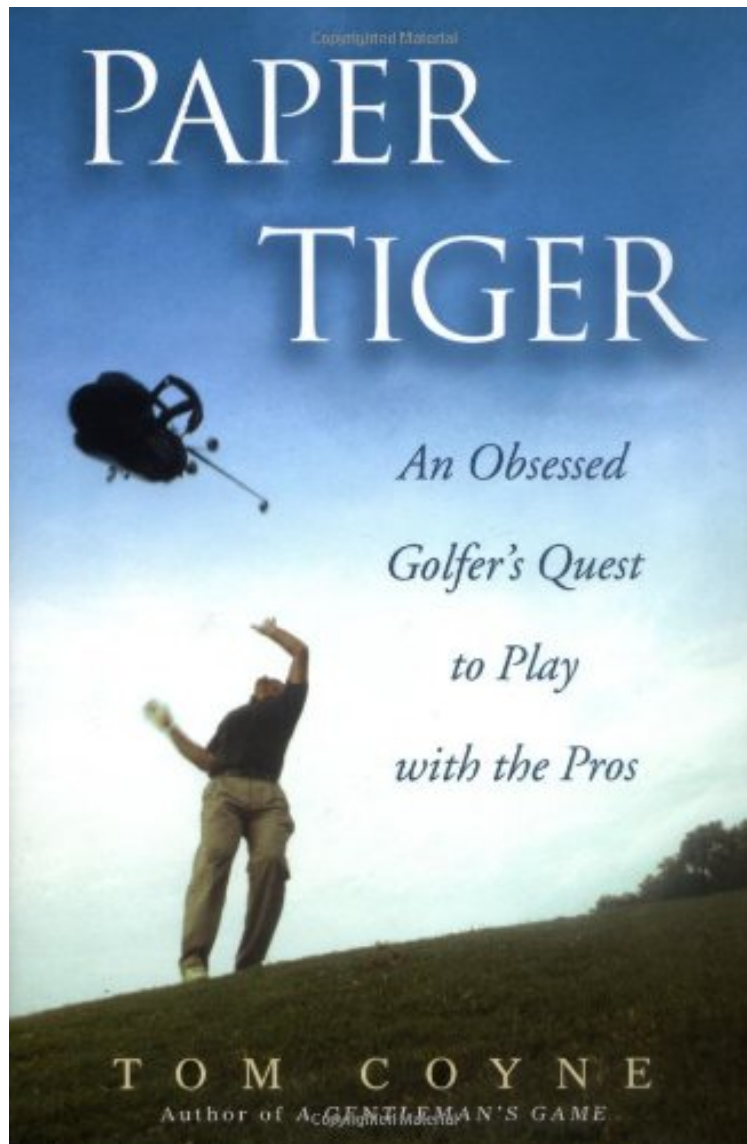


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## Paper Tiger: An Obsessed Golfer's Quest to Play with the Pros

Tom Coyne

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**Tom Coyne : Paper Tiger: An Obsessed Golfer's Quest to Play with the Pros** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Paper Tiger: An Obsessed Golfer's Quest to Play with the Pros:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Golfer Gift By Atreuyu If you have ever wondered how a golfer becomes a pro, or even said to yourself after a particularly good shot, "I can do what those guys on the tour can do" then read this book! It is an amazingly easy read, fun, comfortable, and written so well. I actually have read it twice

just because it was so much fun! A great gift for any golfer! Tom Coyne is a terrific writer and he actually writes about his own experiences which feel so close as you read them! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An enjoyable read By MMJ This is a good read, but I feel like you have to be a golfer to really get it. Which is fine -- I'm as obsessed with the game as anyone, and Coyne's writing style makes it really enjoyable. You're laughing a lot, and the story moves briskly. I found myself making time to read it, wondering how good he'd manage to get and how his quest would turn out. I'd love to see a similar story from someone who starts at a better baseline -- say a plus two handicapper -- to see if an already great golfer can get great enough to make it to the tour, rather than seeing if a pretty good player can make it to great. But this being non-fiction, we get the story he lived, and it's a good one. Recommended for all golfers. There is a lot of adult language, so wait until your kid's in high school if you're thinking about giving this to a youngster. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If Only..... By Eric Amazing book! Gives you a look at what it would really be like to quit your job and try to make the PGA tour, This guy hired trainers and mental game coaches, the whole nine yards. In the end it was great entertainment to read and also might help some with what they could expect if they were to try that journey. Wish I could find my copy to reread lol.. Might just have to buy another copy! It's really that good

The riotously funny story of one weekend golfer who lived the dream—devoting a full year to nothing but the quixotic quest to qualify at the PGA Q-School A lifelong golfer and former caddy, Tom Coyne could drive the ball 300 yards but always struggled against stiff competition; he had often wondered whether the pros won because they were more innately talented or just because they were more obsessed. On the cusp of turning thirty, overweight, and saddled with a 14 handicap, Coyne embarked on a yearlong quest to do everything he could to lift his game—and find out if he could make it through the PGA Tour Qualifying School. Paper Tiger takes you on a rollicking ride into the beer-gutted underbelly of semipro golf, into a world of crash diets, punishing workout regimens, high-flying sports shrinks, cutting-edge club technology, and obscure tournaments. With his girlfriend as caddy, Coyne traverses from Miami to Chicago to Toronto to see how he stacks up against the competition. Ultimately he takes his game to a new level—or at least a new continent—on the links of Australian Q-School, where amidst forty-mile-an-hour winds he must choose between the love of a fickle game and the love of the long-suffering woman who has stood by him throughout all the shanks, hooks, yips, and chili dips. Brimming with humor and insight about the world's most beautiful and maddening game, Paper Tiger will delight golfers and the sane people who love them.

From Publishers Weekly The title is a sly acknowledgment on Coyne's part of the karmic debt his memoir owes to George Plimpton, but while Plimpton merely finagled his way onto the PGA Tour, Coyne (*A Gentleman's Game*) sets himself a higher goal: by dedicating a solid year to improving his golf game, he hopes to actually pass the qualifying school tournament that would allow him to compete as a professional. Believing that the difference between good and great golfers is consistency, Coyne moves to Florida for the winter for intensive training with swing doctors and sports psychologists, staying out on the course until his hands bleed. He faces the inevitable (and sometimes unexpected) setbacks with resigned humor, as he comes to realize that his year's age difference with Tiger Woods is the only thing he'll have in common with the champ. (In fact, it takes all the skill he can muster not to wind up DFL—"Dead [F---ing] Last.") Coyne treads a fine line between sarcasm and sympathy in his observations of his competitors, and though he occasionally gets lost in big-picture ruminations, his quest should resonate with weekend golfers who dream of going all the way. (June) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist For all the low-handicap golfers who have ever wondered if they were good enough to play with the pros, here's the book to prove, once and for all, that, no, you're not good enough. Coyne, a freelance writer and onetime junior golf star, decided to see just how good he could be. Leaving his longtime girlfriend behind in Minnesota, he moved to Florida, aiming to work for a year at lowering his handicap to the sub-scratch range and then enter the notoriously grueling PGA Tour Qualifying School. This painfully funny, self-deprecating chronicle follows Coyne's odyssey: 75,000 range balls hit in one year, 15 shots shaved from his handicap, \$52,000 amassed in credit-card bills. The result: not nearly good enough to compete with the pros but more than good enough to tell the story of why. Every golfer who has ever set a personal goal and failed to reach it (and that's every golfer who has ever touched a club) will identify with Coyne's odyssey, laughing and crying all the while at the absurd complexity of this confounding game. Bill Ott Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved. Abreezy, poignant read. . . . Hilarious. ("Philadelphia Inquirer") Superb. . . . Coyne has a lot to say about golf, and he says it well. ("The Seattle Times") For anyone who's ever suffered the delusion they have enough game to go up against the professional killers who play golf for a living, here's the cold, hilarious truth. (Mark Frost, author of "The Greatest Game Ever Played" and "The Grand Slam") For anyone who's ever suffered the delusion they have enough game to go up against the professional killers who play golf for a living, here's the cold, hilarious truth. (Mark Frost, author of "The Greatest Game Ever Played" and "The Grand Slam") For anyone who's ever suffered the delusion they have enough game to go up against the professional killers who play golf for a living, here's the cold, hilarious truth. (Mark Frost, author of "The Greatest Game Ever Played" and "The Grand Slam") From his commitment to the curious cause to his single-

minded focus, Coyne weaves an insightful and entertaining tale. . . .[H]is self-deprecating writing style and impeccable comedic timing make Paper Tiger a tale worth reading. ("Golfweek")