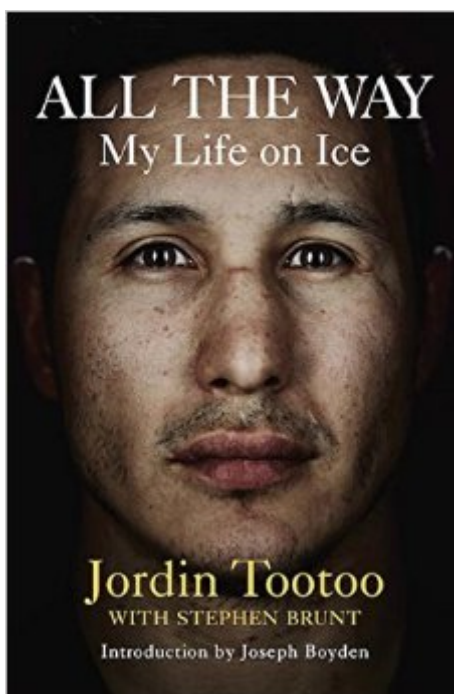


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# All The Way: My Life On Ice



## Synopsis

The searing story of a true warrior's toughest battle. It seemed as though nothing could stop Jordin Tootoo on the ice. The captain of Canada's Under-18, a fan favourite on the World Junior squad, and a WHL top prospect who could intimidate both goalies and enforcers, he was always a leader. And when Tootoo was drafted by Nashville in 2000 and made the Predators out of camp in 2003, he became a leader in another way: the first player of Inuk descent to suit up in the NHL. The stress of competition in the world's top hockey league, the travel, the media, the homesickness and the added pressure to hold one's head high as a role model not only for the young people of his hometown of Rankin Inlet but for the culture that had given him the strength and the opportunities to succeed would have been more than enough to challenge any rookie. But Tootoo faced something far more difficult: the loss of his brother in the year between his draft and his first shift for the Predators. Though he played through it, the tragedy took its inevitable toll. In 2010, Tootoo checked himself into rehab for alcohol addiction. It seemed a promising career had ended too soon. But that's not the way Tootoo saw it and not the way it would end. As heir to a cultural legacy that included alcohol, despair, and suicide, Tootoo could also draw on a heritage that could help sustain him even thousands of miles away from Nunavut. And in a community haunted by the same hopelessness and substance abuse that so affected Tootoo's life, it is not just his skill and fearlessness on the ice that have made him a hero, but the courage of his honesty to himself and to the world around him that he needed to rely on others to sustain him through his toughest challenge. All the Way tells the story of someone who has travelled far from home to realize a dream, someone who has known glory and cheering crowds, but also the demons of despair. It is the searing, honest tale of a young man who has risen to every challenge and nearly fallen short in the toughest game of all, while finding a way to draw strength from his community and heritage, and giving back to it as well.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jordin and Terrance Tootoo were a big part of our local hockey team at the start of the club. OCN Blizzard have retired Terrance's number 22 since his passing. Like any small town we are proud of where Jordin is today and the care he has taken in his life to feel peace and happiness. The book gives a glimpse into Jordins' journey to become the person and player he is today. It was a great read and happy to see the love he feels for his brother. Great job Jordin.

An interesting perspective. I chose this book to learn about how a person from such a different upbringing made it into pro sports, and that is exactly what I got. What a wild ride. Brutally honest, funny at times, but sad and reflective as well. Quick read, too.

When I went to Chapters, I saw Jordin's book and quickly purchased it on my new Kindle. I couldn't be happier I made the decision to start reading Jordin's story as I have to say that it was a real page turner for me. Using all my devices that can synchronize my progress of his book meant that I have access to it wherever I went. Being a person who is First Nations and an athlete, I could empathize with many of his struggles. I could also connect with living a sober lifestyle for over 9 years now and following the "Red Path" in a life without drugs and alcohol. Finding a wife who is similarly supportive of me, like Jen is to Jordin seems to have also resonated with me in that when we find someone who has seen us at our lowest and chose to embrace that as much as our positive attributes is amazing to also be able to connect with. I could never understand how it would be to have lost such an inspirational and close member of my family such as Jordin has with the loss of his brother Terrance. I work as an Aboriginal Student Support Worker at a school board in Northern Ontario and I certainly plan on purchasing this book again but in a hard cover so that I can give it to any Aboriginal high school student that has either suffered a loss such as Jordin has or battling certain demons that I come across in hopes that it will inspire them to walk the path that we both walk to this day. It's a must read for anyone who wants to be inspired to reach their higher potential.

Jordin Tootoo is my favorite hockey player and is a role model for children and adults everywhere.

This book was so easy to read that I felt that he was talking directly to me. As a counselor who works in the mental health and addictions field, this was absolutely inspiring and touching. This book clearly demonstrates how our upbringing plays a major role in who we are in our adulthood. This book shows Tootoo's absolute dedication and hard work in not only his professional life as a hockey player, but also his personal life. This is an absolutely must read for anyone (even if you don't like hockey)!

Hockey Player Jordin Tootoo writes like he is having a conversation with the reader, which draws one vicariously into his life experiences. Really enjoyed learning about the Inuk Community or First Nations of Canada plus the narrative by Sports Author Mr. Stephen Brunt. Whereas I can't relate personally to Jordin's history of alcohol issues, I can as a Registered Nurse in Public Health. Thus his story serves as an inspiration for others who struggle like Jordin so honestly writes about. I also recommend Jordin's book for issues I can relate to, being called out for being of mixed diversity and surviving the painful suicide of a beloved sibling. If you are struggling or want to understand the mindset to overcome struggles in life with positivity and raw honesty, then Jordin Tootoo's book is an all inspiring must read for you!

I really enjoyed reading this book, especially as a Red Wings fan who has met Jordin. He is so open in this book about his life, it's really eye-opening. I can't say enough good about it, read it in one sitting. :-)

Jordin Tootoo's writing is so candid and honest that at times it crushed my heart. I read this book a month ago and I still feel the ghosts of emotion it evoked hovering around me whenever I think about it. There's no "tell all", no salacious stories, no bravado - it's just a story about a man who quite honestly has made it much further in life than probably anyone would have expected. His candor, fortitude and courage are to be admired and honored. I sincerely could not put the book down once I started it.

The front and back covers of Jordin Tootoo's *All the Way: My Life on Ice* quote reviews with adjectives like *notable*, *honesty*, *compelling*, and *sincerity*. All of these words are accurate, based on my reading of the book. However, this is what I EXPECT when I pick up an autobiography / memoir; Mr. Tootoo (and Mr. Brunt, who've I've found to be a most excellent writer) do not disappoint. What makes this book different than others of its ilk? To begin with, Jordin

Tootoo is still an active player in the National Hockey League. Sometimes, a book written at that stage of a career includes a lot of filler â “ witness Eric Lindros’ autobiography which includes numerous (understatement) quotes from various players stating what a regular guy Eric happened to be. Mr. Tootoo’s life has been so varied that he CAN write a book before he’s retired without the need to insert peripherally-related materials throughout the text. Mr. Tootoo’s life has had many notable aspects and incidents â “ he discusses all of them. Being the first player of Inuk descent to play in the NHL, he is also the first one able to describe a childhood growing up in the territory of Nunavut, as well as his departure to play Jr. hockey in the provinces. He can describe the negative affect that alcohol has played in his life, both directly and indirectly through his parents and through his older brother, Terence â “ a man who could potentially have been the first Inuk player in the NHL had a night of drinking not been followed by his suicide. He can describe racism â “ fortunately, without many first-hand examples. Most of all, he can describe hope â “ and how hope can be fulfilled. Yes, Jordin Tootoo delivered what I expect to find in a hockey biography. As such, I give him high marks for his work. I hope his life and career allow him enough material to pen an equally-interesting sequel at some point. RATING: 4 1/2 stars, rounded up to 5 stars.

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