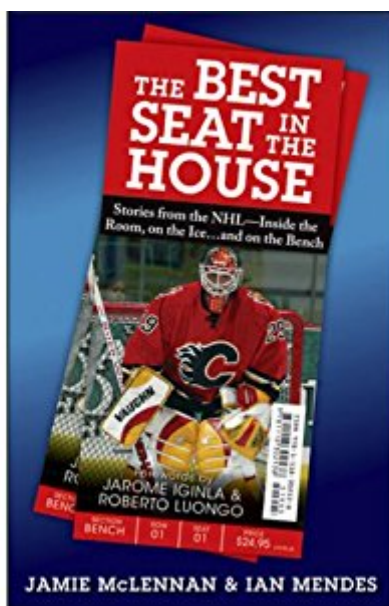


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# The Best Seat In The House: Stories From The NHL - Inside The Room, On The Ice—and On The Bench



## Synopsis

A back-up goalie's hilarious behind-the-mask look at life in the NHL Jamie McLennan spent 20 years playing professional hockey. Sort of. As the backup for such legendary goalies as Grant Fuhr, Ron Hextall, Roberto Luongo, and Miikka Kiprusoff, he saw everything - except much playing time. In *The Best Seat in the House*, McLennan looks back on his unique career, from breaking into the NHL, to working with the legends, to life on the road and in the league, offering listeners an unprecedented glimpse into life inside the locker room. Filled with tales of camaraderie and crazy antics, the book covers 20 years on and off the ice - including McLennan's disastrous meeting with Gene Simmons, accidentally calling Lady Gaga a troll to her face, charging an opposing team's mascot on the orders of legendary coach Billy Smith, and even how he hid a hotdog in his gear for an in-game snack. A collection of hilarious, strange, and sometimes unbelievable stories about hockey, the NHL, and celebrity from throughout the career of NHL backup goalie Jamie McLennan. A deeply personal account of life on and off the ice, packed with hilarious personal anecdotes. Co-written with Sportsnet's Ian Mendes. *The Best Seat in the House* is an irreverent look at the life of a professional hockey player, on the ice, on the bench, and in the dressing room, that is sure to delight hockey fans everywhere.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I adored this book. I love humorous books, but they hardly ever make me laugh out loud; this one did. I'm a casual hockey fan, so you don't have to be an obsessed hockey nut or know all of the big hockey names to like this book. You've just gotta love an author who goes by the nickname Noodles--what a likable, humble narrator. Fun, fast, interesting read, like a goaltender sat on the

barstool next to you and started spinning stories--the kind of stories I tried to re-tell to my husband but laughed too much to make any sense. No, it's not Dostoevsky or Hawthorne. It's not trying to be. For what it is, five stars.

Jamie McLennan's book offers a badly needed insider's look into NHL life for any hockey fan tired of the same insipid lines from modern day NHL analysts, players and coaches ("We have to play a full 60 minutes", "He's a great teammate") via the standard media outlets (TV, newspapers, magazines, etc.). I think my only complaint is that the book was so engaging that it felt as though it was too short by the time I finished it.

There are some really funny stories in this book! My favorite was the one about Billy Smith telling him to guard his crease against a mascot. Great stuff! There's also a bare-knuckles review of his short stint in the KHL... a very different experience! I immediately sent it to a hockey buddy after I was done with it. It's a quick read, and well worth it.

The book is easy to read and has many entertaining hockey stories. The only drawback is that there is a lack of flow or continuity. It was as though Jamie would think of a story in a certain time period and that would be the chapter. Then on to the next chapter in another time era that could be back to Junior or with a particular NHL team.

Some interesting stories, but there always seemed to more information/facts/anecdotes for each section that were left out by the author. It felt a little incomplete and not organized well. For my money I'd suggest JOURNEYMAN by Sean Pronger for a more well written account of a career by a non-star NHL player.

I have a newfound respect for Jamie McLennan. If you're a hockey fan - you can't go wrong. And if you're not, you'll find a unique look into hockey which may turn you onto the game.

A great read from a funny ex-player. A very quick read too...wish there was more.

I really enjoyed this book. I found it much more narrative than Bob Miller's book which came across as a laundry list of anecdotes. It was really interesting to see things from a goalie's point of view.

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