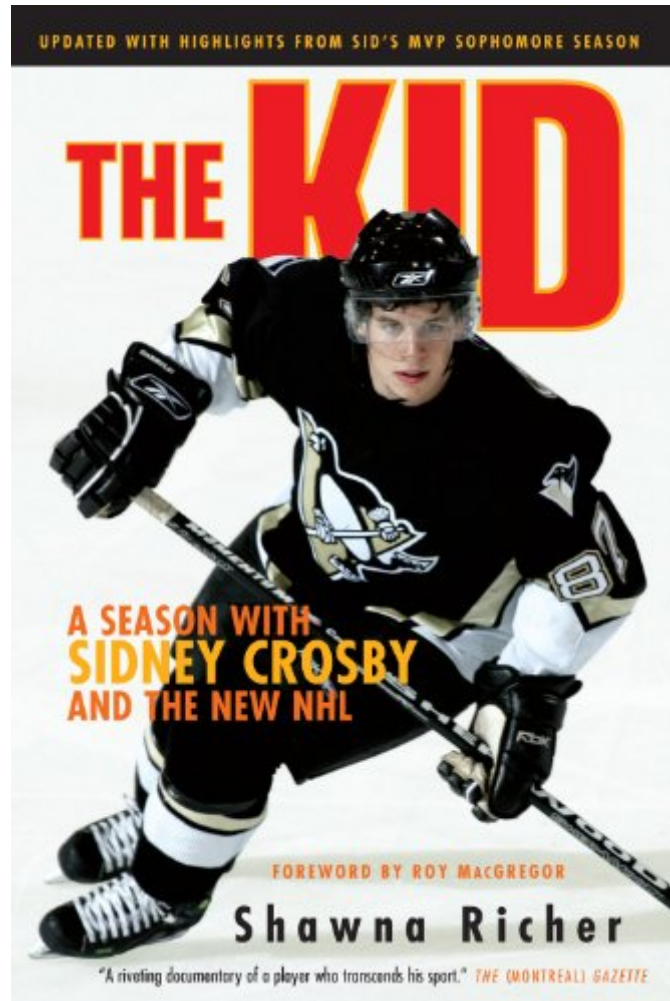


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The Kid: A Season With Sidney Crosby And The New NHL



Synopsis

In the tradition of *A Season on the Brink* and Peter Gzowski's *The Game of Our Lives*, Shawna Richer has had the exclusive assignment of chronicling Sidney Crosby's incredible rookie season. Beginning with the NHL entry draft that almost never was, Richer follows Crosby to Pittsburgh, where he is greeted as the team's savior and moves in with living legend Mario Lemieux. From there it's onto the ice, where the team's youngest player proves to be its best player day in and day out, staying on pace to set rookie scoring records while the team loses and is forced to fire its coach. From an international advertising deal with Reebok to a season that seems to go from triumph to triumph, Sid the Kid has proven that he already is the man.

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Customer Reviews

Even with all the supposed access, the author never seems to have gotten close enough to either Crosby or his camp to give any real insight. Plus, she's just a dull and unimaginative writer. You get all the facts and basics, but nothing more. This book is basically just a long, run-of-the-mill PR piece for Crosby and the Penguins. As far as the broader impact his arrival has had on the "new" NHL, the book pays lip service to the idea but never fully explores it. Could have used a better editor and

maybe needed more time and perspective to fully flesh out the book's central thesis.

Obtained and read *The Kid* over Christmas break. While I can do without the "Hockey is Canada; Canada is hockey" elements of the book, it was a fast and fun read. I came away from the book with both a better sense of who Sidney Crosby is as a person and a sadness at the witness the book plays to age catching up with the magnificent Mario Lemieux. This book would make a good gift for a fan of the Penguins, or hockey in general.

Got this for my daughter for a school project that she was doing on Sidney Crosby. Being a fan myself, I read this book as well. Had a lot of great info that any Crosby fan should enjoy.

Absorbing, fascinating story. I enjoyed every moment of the story - found out a lot more behind the external face of the man. Well written and hard to put down.

Extremely bland look at life inside the NHL. Great concept to follow Sidney Crosby during his rookie season and the "new" NHL but it falls so flat, it's kind of shocking. This is nothing like Roy MacGregor's *Road Games* (on the early Ottawa Sens and the NHL at that time) or, say, Dave Rosenbaum's *Miami Ice* (on the '93 Florida Panthers' run to the Stanley Cup Final). It's also nothing like killer biographies such as Ted Mahovlich's on his dad, Frank, and on Marcel Dionne, or Tom Adrahtas's one on Glenn Hall. OK, I'm comparing Richer's book to the best of the best and that may be a tad unfair but even so, it just reads like a day-by-day journal but where's the passion, feeling, opinion, depth to any of this? There's also little well-thought-out analysis of the season and Crosby's impact on it. For example, the incident with Derian Hatcher high stick attacks on Crosby should have given us more info on Hatcher himself (i.e., his career, what type of record he had for incidents like this, how he was a slow but effective NHL defenseman pre-2005, etc.). I just felt like I was reading a typical boring daily newspaper article throughout. Also, why not give us more on Mario Lemieux, Mark Recchi, John LeClair and Marc-Andre Fleury? I wanted to know the cast of characters Crosby played with and what made them tick. Honestly, the Peter Mansbridge (for our American readers, he's the anchor of "The National" nightly news broadcast) one-on-one interview on CBC with Sidney Crosby gave me more of a feeling for the guy than this entire book. In better hands, this might have been one of the all-time great books on hockey. Or maybe Crosby just is not all that fascinating a personality. Lastly, I hate to tell you, Shawna, the beestung lips and all, but after polling a few women, Sidney is not even in Pavel Bure or Kirk McLean's league according to

them. That was a stretch, methinks, and seemed just thrown in there to "sell" the book.

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