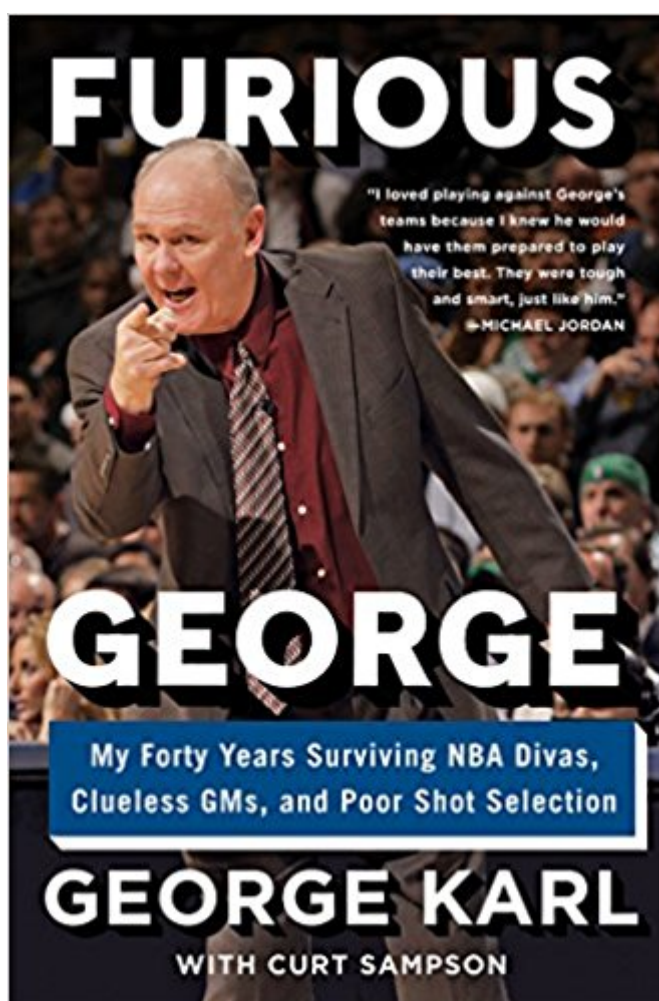


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# Furious George: My Forty Years Surviving NBA Divas, Clueless GMs, And Poor Shot Selection



## Synopsis

The most outspoken and combative coach in NBA history—and one of the most successful, amassing more than 1,175 victories, the sixth best winning record ever—reflects on his life, his career, and his battles on and off the basketball court in this no-holds-barred memoir. A man of deep passion and intensity, George Karl earned his bad boy reputation while playing at the University of North Carolina, a rap that continued through the five years he spent with the San Antonio Spurs—and long after he stopped playing. Karl's beery nights, fistfights, and barking followed him into a thirty-five-year coaching career. In a game defined by big stakes and bigger egos, rabid fans and an unforgiving media, Karl was hired and fired a dozen times. After leading a team beset by injuries and with no superstar to its best season of all time—an achievement that earned Karl the title NBA Coach of the Year—he was dumped by the Denver Nuggets in 2013. Less than a year and a half later, Karl was at the helm of the Sacramento Kings, snarling and bellowing on the sidelines before being cut loose in May 2016. Intense, obstinate, and loud, Karl has never backed down from a confrontation, whether with management, officials, or star players, as NBA legends from Allan Iverson to Gary Payton to Carmelo Anthony to Demarcus Cousins can attest. Telling his story, Karl holds nothing back as he speaks out about the game that has defined his life, including the greed, selfishness, and ass-covering he believes are characteristic of the modern NBA player, and the rampant corruption that leads all the way to the office of the NBA commissioner, David Stern. Karl also reveals how he's learned to deal with the personalities, the pressure, and the setbacks with a resilience he acquired from his three bouts with cancer. Raw, hard-hitting, and brutally honest, Furious George is as thrilling, unpredictable, and entertaining as the game that has defined Karl's life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I loved playing against George's teams because I knew he would have them prepared to play their best. They were tough and smart, just like him. • (Michael Jordan)

During his three-decade career as a head coach in the NBA, George Karl has amassed more victories (1,175) than all but four men in league history, including Phil Jackson, generally considered the greatest coach in the game. While Jackson may have earned his iconic status by morphing into the Zen master, Karl has succeeded in the opposite manner—as an excitable firebrand who has never backed down from a confrontation, on the court or off. As a player first for the University of North Carolina and later for the San Antonio Spurs—Karl was known for his full-throttle commitment, which often left his legs tattooed with floor burns and his jersey flecked with blood. As a coach, Karl used his combative personality to stand up to diva superstars, such as Allen Iverson, Gary Payton, Carmelo Anthony, and DeMarcus Cousins, among others, who were not used to the style of coaching that demanded they follow the same rules as the rest of the team. In telling his story, Karl holds nothing back, talking candidly about the greed, selfishness, and ass covering he believes are characteristic of many modern professional players, and about the bottom-line-obsessed decision making that started at the top with former NBA commissioner David Stern, who frequently fined him for speaking out. He's not that crazy about certain general managers and owners, either. Off the court, Karl has summoned that inner steel to battle cancer twice. The second time, it was alongside his son, Coby, whose basketball career was cut short by the disease. Their shared struggle to overcome the toughest of all opponents shows a side of Karl rarely glimpsed by the public—a warmer, more compassionate streak that values family above all else. Raw, hard-hitting, and brutally honest, Furious George is as in-your-face and entertaining as the game that has defined Karl's life. Whether in backwater semi-pro towns such as Great Falls, Montana, or Albany, New York, or in NBA cities such as Seattle, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Oakland, Denver, or Sacramento, George Karl coaches one way—all out. And his memoir is everything you would expect from a man who was once fired for being a little too forthright with the media.

I love autobiographies where the author is a jerk and by the end of the book you are affirmed that he

isa jerk and probably doesn't even know it. Karl's drive for success led to a lot of success, just not a lot of friends. He is honest in ripping and praising players and others he encounters along the way. If your team is in the book, and mine is, it is fascinating to watch him lay waste to the years he was there.

I totally enjoyed Karl's book. Living in Denver, he made basketball relevant in a football town. I gave up my tickets when Kroenke fired him for no reason than he wanted to be the man. The Nuggets have never recovered.

It is what it is. He does not shy away from his opinions. This is not a coaching book. It is a biography of a man's coaching life. I really enjoyed the book. Probably need to investigate the other side of the story on a few things but dang good fun.

A good book and information that was important to be told, though it was often disjointed.

One of the most honest sports memoirs I've ever read. Very enjoyable from start to finish, whether you love him or hate him, George Karl is always going to tell you exactly what he thinks and he isn't afraid to lay himself bare.

Wonderful book. Great insight into the life and career of an excellent coach and person! I learned a lot about life and coaching in the NBA!

A good book and good basketball are similar: Fast paced and interesting. This book starts off slowly but ultimately scores.

Wonderful, Insightful, Book I have shared it around with the immediate family, and everything is as advertised....Great Book.

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