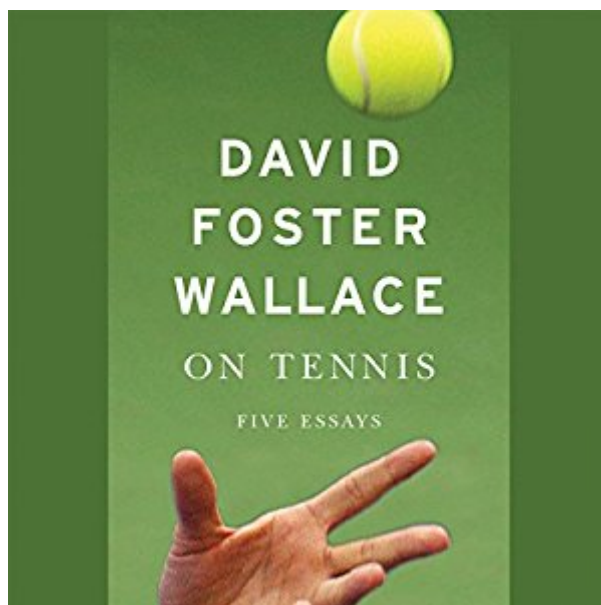


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# On Tennis: Five Essays



## Synopsis

David Foster Wallace's extraordinary writing on tennis, collected for the first time in an exclusive audio-original edition. A "long-time rabid fan of tennis" and a regionally ranked tennis player in his youth, David Foster Wallace wrote about the game like no one else. On Tennis presents David Foster Wallace's five essays on the sport, published between 1990 and 2006, which have been hailed as some of the greatest and most innovative sports writing of our time. This lively and entertaining collection begins with Wallace's own experience as a prodigious tennis player ("Derivative Sport in Tornado Alley"). He also challenges the sports memoir genre ("How Tracy Austen Broke My Heart"), takes us to the US Open ("Democracy and Commerce at the U.S. Open"), and profiles two of the world's greatest tennis players ("Tennis Player Michael Joyce's Professional Artistry as a Paradigm of Certain Stuff About Choice, Freedom, Limitation, Joy, Grotesquerie, and Human Completeness" and "Federer Both Flesh and Not"). With infectious enthusiasm and enormous heart, Wallace's writing shows us the beauty, complexity, and brilliance of the game he loved best.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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Best Sellers Rank: #81 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Tennis #85 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Essays #93 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Racket Sports

## Customer Reviews

If I had to pick the best tennis book I have ever read, it would be this one. Wallace is an amazingly creative and inventive writer who can make the smallest details fascinating. His unique writing style with its long sentences, unusual use of vocabulary and acronyms is both lyrical and clever and funny at times. These five essays stand alone and are linked through his particular interests which

even if one knew nothing about tennis would none the less be engaging and enjoyable to read. His sheer skill at writing, his keen observation and use of language make these essays riveting. I couldn't recommend them more highly. Treat yourself and explore this genius if you don't know his works.

I ordered both the Kindle and Audible versions of this book, based on recommendations. The next-to-last chapter that I found memorable is a mirror of a New York Times article by the author. My advice: Google the title, "Federer as Religious Experience," to read the 2006 NY Times article which is excellent. After reading that chapter/article, this 76-year-old tennis player found the rest of the book boring.

Wallace's writing is the treat here. I read elsewhere a description of him as "the Federer of writing." It's appropriate. Gracefully reflecting on life itself, on the geometry of the midwestern land where he learned to play, and how that land and its winds enhanced his own "near-great" play. He aces each essay.

Fantastic quick-reading essays. DFW had a command of the English language that was pretty well staggering. His insight into the world and play of tennis is great for players and non-players alike. A little footnote heavy, but the footnotes ended up being great reads, as well.

I liked this. I'm not an avid tennis player not do I play at all but the writing dragged me in and I learned a lot about the beauty and mathematics of the game.

I like his writing style. Very good wordsmith to convey his meaning

Interesting!

Lovely writing and interesting observations.

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