



## The Breaks of the Game

By David Halberstam



## **Book summary & main ideas**

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## Summary:

The Breaks of the Game by David Halberstam is a non-fiction book that chronicles the 1979-1980 season of the Portland Trail Blazers, a professional basketball team in the National Basketball Association (NBA). The book follows the team from the start of the season to the end, and examines the lives of the players, coaches, and management. It also looks at the business of the NBA, and the impact of race and money on the game.

The book begins with a look at the team's star player, Bill Walton, and his struggles with injuries. It then moves on to the team's coach, Jack Ramsay, and his attempts to build a winning team. The



book examines the team's successes and failures, and the impact of the players' personalities on the team's performance. It also looks at the team's management, and how they dealt with the pressures of the business side of the game.

The book also looks at the impact of race on the game, and how the NBA was affected by the influx of African-American players. It examines the struggles of the players to be accepted by their white teammates, and the racism they faced from fans and the media. It also looks at the impact of money on the game, and how the NBA was becoming increasingly commercialized.

The book ends with a look at the team's playoff run, and how they ultimately fell short of their goal of winning the championship. It examines the impact of the season on the players, coaches, and



management, and how it changed their lives. The book is an insightful look at the game of basketball, and the people who make it what it is.

## Main ideas:

#1. The Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s were a talented team with a great chance of winning the NBA championship. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a talented team with a great chance of winning the NBA championship. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s were a talented team with a great chance of winning the NBA championship. The Breaks of the Game by David Halberstam follows the teams journey,



examining their successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. It looks at the teams rise to the top of the NBA, their struggles to stay there, and the impact of the teams success on the city of Portland. It also examines the relationships between the players and coaches, and how they worked together to achieve their goals. The book also looks at the impact of the teams success on the city of Portland, and how it changed the citys culture and economy. Finally, it looks at the legacy of the team, and how it has impacted the NBA and the city of Portland in the years since.

#2. The team was led by Bill Walton, a talented center who was hampered by injuries. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game focuses on the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, led by Bill Walton, a talented center who was



hampered by injuries. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game is a book by David Halberstam that focuses on the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s. Led by Bill Walton, a talented center who was hampered by injuries, the team was a mix of young stars and veteran players. The book examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. It looks at the team's struggles to stay competitive in the face of Walton's injuries, and how the team's fortunes changed when he was able to stay healthy. It also looks at the team's culture, and how the players and coaches interacted with each other. The book is a fascinating look at a team that was both successful and troubled, and how the players and coaches dealt with



the highs and lows of the game.

The book also looks at the individual stories of the players and coaches. It examines the impact of Walton's injuries on the team, and how the team was able to stay competitive despite his absence. It looks at the relationships between the players and coaches, and how they were able to work together to achieve success. It also looks at the personal stories of the players and coaches, and how they were able to overcome adversity and stay focused on the game. The book is a fascinating look at a team that was both successful and troubled, and how the players and coaches dealt with the highs and lows of the game.

#3. The team was coached by Jack Ramsay, a demanding but respected coach. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail



Blazers of the late 1970s, coached by Jack Ramsay, a demanding but respected coach. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a team coached by the legendary Jack Ramsay. Ramsay was a demanding coach, but he was also highly respected by his players. He was known for his ability to get the most out of his players, and his teams were always competitive. The book examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. It looks at the relationships between the players and coaches, and how they worked together to achieve success. It also looks at the struggles the team faced, both on and off the court, and how they overcame them.



The book is an in-depth look at the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, and the impact Jack Ramsay had on the team.

#4. The team was owned by Larry Weinberg, a businessman who was passionate about the team. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, owned by Larry Weinberg, a businessman who was passionate about the team. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, owned by Larry Weinberg, a businessman who was passionate about the team. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of



the players and coaches. Weinberg was a passionate owner who was determined to make the Trail Blazers a success. He invested heavily in the team, signing star players like Bill Walton and Maurice Lucas, and hiring a top-notch coaching staff. He also worked hard to create a positive atmosphere in the locker room, encouraging the players to bond and work together. Despite his efforts, the team struggled to find success in the early years, and Weinberg was forced to make difficult decisions in order to keep the team afloat.

The book follows the team through its highs and lows, from its first championship in 1977 to its struggles in the early 1980s. It also looks at the personal stories of the players and coaches, exploring their relationships with each other and with Weinberg. Through these stories, the book paints a vivid picture of the team and its



culture, and the challenges they faced in their pursuit of success. It is a fascinating look at the inner workings of a professional sports team, and a testament to the dedication and passion of its owner, Larry Weinberg.

#5. The team was filled with talented players, including Maurice Lucas, Lionel Hollins, and Bob Gross. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, filled with talented players such as Maurice Lucas, Lionel Hollins, and Bob Gross. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

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Gross. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. The book delves into the lives of the players, exploring their relationships with each other, their families, and the game of basketball. It also looks at the team's struggles with injuries, trades, and the pressures of the NBA. Through interviews with the players, coaches, and team personnel, the book paints a vivid picture of the Blazers' journey to the 1977 NBA championship. It also examines the impact of the team's success on the city of Portland and the state of Oregon. The Breaks of the Game is an insightful look at the highs and lows of professional basketball, and a testament to the power of teamwork and determination.

#6. The team was successful in the regular season, but struggled in the playoffs. Idea Summary: The Breaks of



the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, successful in the regular season but struggling in the playoffs. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a team that was successful in the regular season but struggled in the playoffs. Through interviews with players, coaches, and team personnel, author David Halberstam examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. He looks at the team's culture, the impact of the media, and the role of race in the NBA. He also examines the impact of the team's struggles on the city of Portland, and how the team's successes and failures affected the lives of the



players and coaches.

The book looks at the team's star players, such as Bill Walton, Maurice Lucas, and Lionel Hollins, and how their individual stories shaped the team's identity. It also examines the team's coaches, Jack Ramsay and Stu Inman, and how their leadership styles affected the team's performance. Halberstam also looks at the team's front office, and how their decisions impacted the team's success or failure.

The Breaks of the Game is an in-depth look at the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, and how their successes and failures shaped the team and the city of Portland. It is a fascinating look at the team's culture, the impact of the media, and the role of race in the NBA. It is a must-read for any fan of the Portland Trail Blazers or the NBA.



#7. The team was hampered by injuries, including Bill Walton's chronic foot problems. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, hampered by injuries, including Bill Walton's chronic foot problems. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game by David Halberstam follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a team that was hampered by injuries, including Bill Walton's chronic foot problems. The book examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. It looks at the impact of Walton's injury on the team, as well as the other players' struggles with their own injuries. It also examines the team's culture and how it was affected by



the injuries, as well as the impact of the team's success and failure on the city of Portland. The book also looks at the larger context of the NBA at the time, and how the Blazers fit into the league's history. Ultimately, The Breaks of the Game is a story of resilience and determination in the face of adversity, and a testament to the power of teamwork and camaraderie.

#8. The team was affected by the changing landscape of the NBA, including the emergence of the Boston Celtics. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, affected by the changing landscape of the NBA, including the emergence of the Boston Celtics. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.



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#9. The team was affected by the changing dynamics of the players, including the emergence of free



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The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a team that was affected by the changing dynamics of the players, including the emergence of free agency. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. The book looks at the impact of free agency on the team, as well as the impact of the team's decisions on the players. It also looks at the relationships between the players and coaches, and how they were affected by the changing



dynamics of the game. The book also looks at the impact of the team's success on the city of Portland, and how the team's success and failure affected the city's economy and culture. Finally, the book looks at the impact of the team's success and failure on the players, and how they were affected by the changing dynamics of the game.

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#10. The team was affected by the changing media landscape, including



the emergence of cable television. Idea Summary: The Breaks of the Game follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, affected by the changing media landscape, including the emergence of cable television. It examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches.

The Breaks of the Game by David Halberstam follows the Portland Trail Blazers of the late 1970s, a team that was affected by the changing media landscape, including the emergence of cable television. The book examines the team's successes and failures, as well as the personal stories of the players and coaches. It looks at how the team was affected by the new media landscape, and how the players and coaches had to adjust to the new reality. It also looks at the impact of the media on the team's



performance, and how the team was able to use the media to their advantage. The book also looks at the impact of the media on the team's fan base, and how the team was able to use the media to build a loyal fan base. Finally, the book looks at the impact of the media on the team's legacy, and how the team was able to use the media to create a lasting legacy.

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