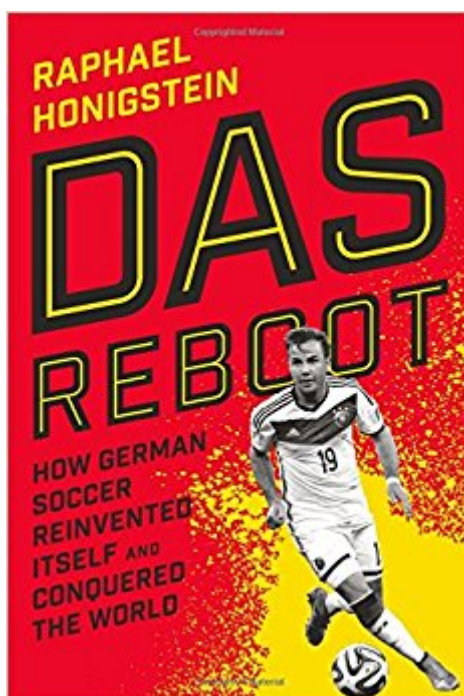




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Das Reboot: How German Soccer Reinvented Itself And Conquered The World



Synopsis

A beautiful story, expertly told. • Per Mertesacker, Arsenal defender and member of the German national team, winners of the 2014 World CupEstádio do Maracanã, July 13, 2014, the last ten minutes of extra time in the World Cup Final: German forward Mario Götze jumps to meet a floated pass from André Schürrle, cushions the ball with his chest, and in one fluid motion volleys the ball past the onrushing Argentine goalkeeper into the far corner of the net. The goal wins Germany the World Cup for the first time in almost thirty years. As the crowd roars, Götze looks dazed, unable to comprehend what he has done. In *Das Reboot*, Raphael Honigstein charts the return of German soccer from the dreary functionality of the late 1990s to Götze's moment of sublime, balletic genius and asks: How did this come about? The answer takes him from California to Stuttgart, from Munich to the Maracanã, via Dortmund and Amsterdam. Packed with exclusive interviews with key figures, including Jürgen Klinsmann, Thomas Müller, Oliver Bierhoff, and many more, Honigstein's book reveals the secrets of German soccer's success.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

During every big international soccer tournament I usually read a soccer related book. So for Euro 2016, I chose *Das Reboot*. The book covers the German men's national soccer team through its doldrums (late 90s - early 00s) to it winning the world cup in Brazil 2014. The chapters alternate between games in the WC 2014 (chronologically going through each game) and what was happening back in Germany to change soccer from the ground up. At home soccer was going through a revolution because simply being Germany was no longer enough. The problem was that

Germany were to host the WC in 2006, and they needed to improve fast. We know where the story ends, but how they get there is quite a fascinating story. The author, RH, has done his homework and his depth of knowledge of German soccer is indeed impressive. His resources cover German newspapers, TV shows/commentary and interviews with players and coaches both past and present. His access to people high up in the ranks (e.g. Bierhoff) and getting them to open up is quite a feat as the truth about German soccer during the doldrums is revealed (and some people are not spared). Here, Klinsmann shines and it is his story that carries the early transition. I have always liked the somewhat rogue Klinsmann and was quite impressed with the changes he introduced, that now seem so commonplace. Others get the limelight as well in the chapters about changing the national team from the ground up. The key was training youth better and in soccer academies, bringing them up as a group. RH does a good job covering this period at home but at times these chapters become a bit numbing and seem to repeat somewhat and ramble on. As well, some grammatical errors and phrasing that did not make sense take away from mood of the book.

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