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The Rivalry: Bill Russell, Wilt Chamberlain, and the Golden Age of Basketball (Paperback)

By John Taylor

Ballantine Books, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. Annotated edition. Language: English . Brand New Book. A BRILLIANTLY WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF THE NBA S GLORY DAYS, AND THE RIVALRY THAT DOMINATED THE ERA In the mid-1950s, the NBA was a mere barnstorming circuit, with outposts in such cities as Rochester, New York, and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Most of the best players were white; the set shot and layup were the sport s chief offensive weapons. But by the 1970s, the league ruled America s biggest media markets; contests attracted capacity crowds and national prime-time television audiences. The game was played above the rim -and the most marketable of its high-flying stars were black. The credit for this remarkable transformation largely goes to two giants: Bill Russell and Wilt Chamberlain. In *The Rivalry*, award-winning journalist John Taylor projects the stories of Russell, Chamberlain, and other stars from the NBA s golden age onto a backdrop of racial tensions and cultural change. Taylor s electrifying account of two complex men-as well as of a game and a country at a crossroads-is an epic narrative of sports in America during the 1960s. It s hard to imagine two characters better suited to leading...



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