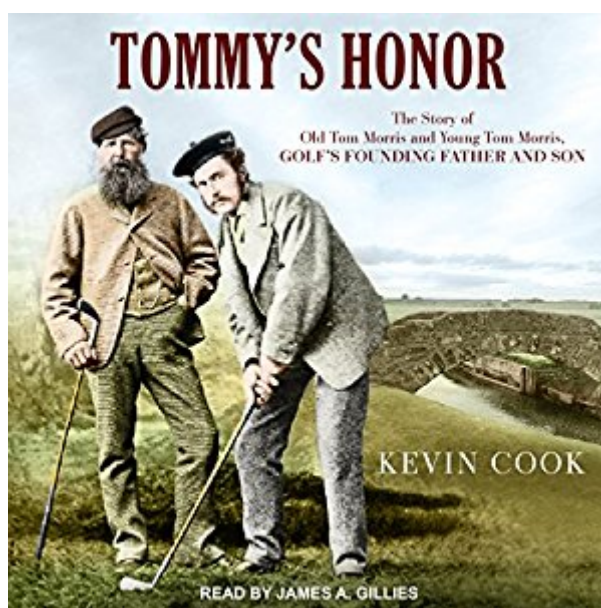


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# Tommy's Honor: The Story Of Old Tom Morris And Young Tom Morris, Golf's Founding Father And Son



## Synopsis

Bringing to life golf's founding father and son, Tommy's Honor is a stirring tribute to two legendary players and a vivid evocation of their colorful, rip-roaring times. The Morrisses were towering figures in their day. Old Tom began life as a nobody - he was the son of a weaver and a maid. But he was born in St. Andrews, Scotland, the cradle of golf, and the game was in his blood. He became the champion golfer of Scotland. As "Keeper of the Green" at the town's ancient links, Tom deployed golf's first lawnmower and banished sheep from the fairways. Then Young Tommy's career took off. Handsome Tommy Morris was a more daring player than his father. Soon he surpassed Old Tom and dominated the game. But just as he reached his peak, Tommy's life took a tragic turn, leading to his death at the age of 24. That shock is at the heart of Tommy's Honor. It left Tom to pick up the pieces - to honor his son by keeping Tommy's memory alive. Tommy's Honor is both fascinating history and a moving personal saga. But this audiobook isn't only for golfers. It's for every son who has fought to escape a father's shadow and for every father who has guided a son toward manhood, then found it hard to let him go.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours 28 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Tantor Audio

Audible.com Release Date: August 1, 2017

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0746QJVXQ

Best Sellers Rank: #36 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Sports & Outdoors > Golf #208 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Golf #292 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Europe

## Customer Reviews

Although I've played golf for over 50 years, and am familiar with 20th century golf history, I have just started playing "Hickory Golf", using 100 year old hickory shaft clubs, and reproduction golf balls of the 1920s era. We even dress the part, wearing knickers or plus fours, dress shirts, a tie, tweed jacket and cap...Well, you get the idea. This new-found interest led me to the story of modern golf's

origins in Scotland, beautifully (and poignantly) detailed in "Tommy's Honor". Author Kevin Cook brought 19th Century Scotland alive with his in-depth research and skill portraying the Morris Family of St. Andrews. It's tough to describe a golf match and keep it interesting; Mr. Cook accomplishes this feat 20 times over! Everything pertinent to golf's formative years is included in "Tommy's Honor": Culture and Class Lines; development of balls and clubs; how world-renowned courses evolved from pastures and pathways to the stunning fairways and greens we're familiar with. Best of all, Old Tom Morris and his oldest son, Tom Morris, Junior are presented not as icons, but as real people, albeit superbly talented and visionary ones! My fellow Hickory Golfers and I are really looking forward to the film adaptation of "Tommy's Honor", which will be released next month (April, 2017). If it's half as compelling as this book, it will be a hit!

Reading Tommy's Honor while watching the 2015 Open in St. Andrews, Scotland, made each experience extra special. Viewing the layout of the course in 2015 built from the mind and back bracing work of Tom Morris and his helpers 150 years ago was an exciting leap in the history of the sport of golf. I hope each of the players had the opportunity to read this book before they hit their first tee shot. Kevin Cook has done a great job of weaving the stats from many tournaments, the history of the R & A, and the culture of the time into the personal story of Old Tom and Tommy, the champion golfer. Learning the Scottish origin of many current golfing terms added to the understanding of the golfing lexicon. Sharing the passion for the game that Tom and Tommy had will keep it alive and well for many years to come, not only for the players but for the "fanatics" as well. I'm not a player, but reading Tommy's Honor has made me a better viewer and fan.

I have had a difficult time maintaining interest in this book. I thought it would be a novel, but it's written like a narrative history of golf in Scotland. Some interesting details, but no depth of characters. It tells the facts, just not much color. It's been on my table for a month, and I'm not halfway through. I like golf and history, but -- blegh...

I am an avid golfer, an amateur historian and a frequent traveler (usually in conjunction with golf), having been to England, Scotland and Ireland on several occasions. That being the case, you would think this would be right up my alley. And while I can't say that I disliked it, it was very simple and didn't actually tell me a lot that I didn't already know (though I've never studied the Morris family). The book tells the story of Old Tom Morris and his son, Young Tom, golfing royalty in the mid-late 19th century. It is largely

biographical, but takes enough liberties with undocumented dialogue and personal feelings to almost qualify as historical fiction. There is not enough scholarly background work to produce what could have been a highly educational and informative text, but instead just enough facts against a historical backdrop to produce a very light, entertaining, easy to read, feel good text.

One of those rare biographies that transports the reader to the time and location of the story. I love anything about golf: playing it, watching it on TV, reading about it, talking about it, etc. Following Young Tommy to the courses in England and Scotland seemed almost as if the reader was part of the throngs in the 21st century galleries of modern day events. The tragedies that Old Tom dealt with and the manner in which he dealt with them made the book that much more poignant. At times I felt the book got a bit wordy but I'm very glad I persevered and finished it. Read it if you like golf or are interested in the history of golf or if you just want a feel-good story about family.

I loved this book! As a long time golf enthusiast it was so interesting reading the story of those early days of golf, as the ancient sport took form and moved to become the game so many of us enjoy today. I always knew about Old Tom Morris and Young Tom Morris as early winners of the British Open ( as we call it today) but Old Tom's life, family, faith, and commitment to golf was opened beautifully in this book. I've already recommended it to my friends and I'm happy to recommend it here.

If you're a weekend duffer like myself you'll enjoy this book. Heard about the movie while watching the golf channel and one of the announcers said the book was good. He was right. Tommy's Honor provides a great history of the game and course design beginning in Scotland. It particularly details the creation and expansion of the great St. Andrews course as well as other courses in Scotland and England. In fact many course designers today are still mimicking many of the aspects built into the St. Andrews course. Particularly the links style courses. However the book is much more than that. It is a story of father's love, family, commitment and hardship. I don't think my golf game will improve having read this book but can I show my golfing buddies about how smart I am about golf history while we're discussing our round on the 19th hole. In fact this book was so interesting that I already downloaded and started reading another book about the history of golf.

We just came from St Andrews Golf Course and this book was recommended to me. A really great read and gave me incite into the history of the grand old course. It help me to really understand

what I had seen and the history of that institution. I am re reading to be sure that I did miss something. Would highly recommend.

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