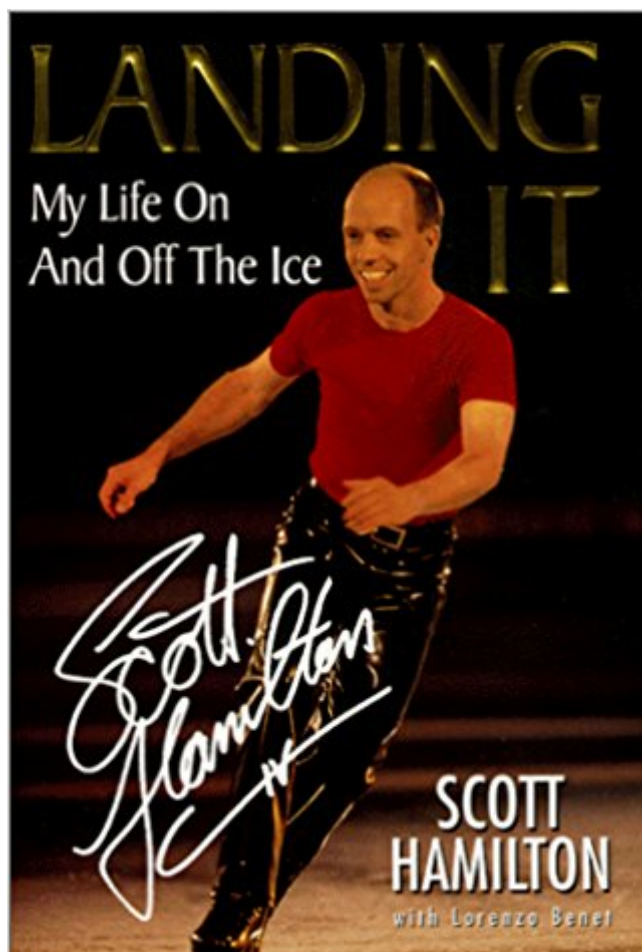


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# Landing It: My Life On And Off The Ice



## Synopsis

One of the most beloved sports figures in the world today tells his own story for the first time.-- "Landing It" was a New York Times bestseller for 4 weeks.-- Scott Hamilton is one of today's most universally admired and visible athletes.-- Includes personal stories about his close friends and colleagues, including Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinsky, Katia Gordeeva, Kurt Browning, Brian Boitano and others.-- Scott Hamilton has been enormously influential in making figure skating the most watched sport after NFL football. For more than two decades, incomparable figure skater Scott Hamilton has earned the admiration and won the hearts of people everywhere. Now, in "Landing It", Scott Hamilton shares a lifetime of reaching for the stars -- and always beating the odds. He vividly recounts the highs and lows, the victories and defeats, of his remarkable life and career, including his brave battle against cancer and triumphant return to professional skating. With stunning candor, he offers a rare glimpse inside the world of skating superstardom. Scott Hamilton's honors include: -- U.S. Olympic Committee Athlete of the Year-- 4-time United States Champion and 4-time World Champion-- Olympic gold medallist-- Inducted in to the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame and U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame-- He has been the color commentator on CBS since 1985.-- He is the producer and star of the "Stars on Ice" tour, which is seen by more than 1.1 million people each season.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Readers seeking a peek at the world of competitive figure skating will be more than satisfied with

Hamilton's book. Like Peggy Fleming (see above), Hamilton is a cancer survivor. He opens his story with the diagnosis of his testicular cancer, but the illness is just one aspect of Hamilton's difficult but ultimately satisfying life. An adopted child, Hamilton was quite ill as a child and spent much of his early years in and out of hospitals, on intravenous feedings, weak and falling behind in school. Gradually, as Hamilton gained strength, his mother suggested he try to ice skate. Whether Hamilton's various illnesses had run their course or the skating cured him, Hamilton was healthy enough to pursue skating. His route to the Olympics is familiar to skating fans: living away from home with other families, constant practice sessions and the nervous tension and rivalries. Hamilton is far more willing than Fleming to write about his relationships with other skaters and his feelings about the skating world. He addresses the confusion over his sexuality: "Frankly I was sick of people constantly assuming I was gay because I was a figure skater." Hamilton also writes about how critical reviewers were of his early appearances as a skating commentator and how he finally had to do the best he could rather than try to measure up to one of his idols, Dick Button. A little more brassy than Fleming, Hamilton strikes a nice balance between the personal and the professional. (Oct.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Hamilton's inspirational life story recounts events from the time of his debilitating childhood illness, through the many years of training, the death of his mother, competition failures and successes (most notably his Olympic gold medal), and his recent successful battle with cancer. Here is a champion who recounts his mistakes along with his victories, pointing out the lessons he learned along the way. Hamilton is able to portray the sense of community that skaters share, substituting for family life as they train and perform away from home. This book shows Scott Hamilton as human, even humble, and full of good cheer: just as he seems on the ice. Enthusiastically recommended for all public libraries. Bonnie Collier, Yale Law Lib., New Haven, CT Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a way too long, not very interesting book about Scott Hamilton. Now, you understand, I'm a great admirer of Scott, his skating, his sportscasting ability, his survival of his cancer, etc. I'm sure he did, indeed, have an interesting life but it is dragged out way too long in this book with waaaaay too much detail. For the most part, he seems to be sort of bragging about what an immature, ungrateful, partying jackass he was most of the time. He must have kept a hell of a diary because I've never seen anything like the detail in which he relates apparently every single competition he ever went to, who was there, how he did, from the very first time he ever put on skates. I think this

could have been a much better book but needed a much better editor than it apparently had.

This is a great autobiography of one of skating's greats. He writes as if he is telling his life story directly to the reader. There is, of course, a great deal of skating in it. But for those of us who can barely skate a straight line, it is still very interesting. His life is incredible. There are whole chapters dedicated to others in skating (the one dedicated to Sergei Grinkov is so touching and gives a lot of insight into another great skater, but have Kleenex handy!). Mr. Hamilton has had so many medical challenges and tragic things happen in his life. Yet he maintains such a positive, upbeat attitude and finds the humor in so many things. I loved reading about his personal life and life as an announcer. I came away from this book so touched, and immediately added his other book to my "must read" list.

I loved reading this book. I am a big ice-skating fan and have watched it since I was a kid. The book starts off in chapter one talking about his cancer discovery already. You start to get a feel for who he is based on the way he handled the news of his illness etc. Then he talks about his childhood and the sacrifices his mom made to drive him for miles to get to competitions. He goes on to talk about his actual career (and this is the reason for losing a star - because he talks too much about his routines and the types of jumps and the scores. Enough already, just let us learn about him). He even includes a chapter about Sergei Grinkov (one of my other favourite skaters who died tragically and unexpectedly on the ice) which is nice and moving. Scott has a real upbeat personality and a very positive attitude which will take him a long way. He is a great guy and a brilliant skater and I enjoyed reading about him and his career (just not all the endless jumps). I recommend this to all skating fans and cancer patients looking for a bit of inspiration. It's really good.

A good book. My only reservation was that while I have enjoyed watching Scott, I am not really interested in ice skating details.

My daughter love figure skating and this book help me to understand the complex life of a profesional figure skaters how hard is it. Love love the book very easy to read

Wonderful story of his life.

Saying it again--- I love this guy!!!! Video was excellent and watched it many times. My hero! Don't miss watching this.

I have been a Scott fan since before the '84 Olympics and I enjoyed reading this book. His positive outgoing personality shines on every page, while overall the book reveals a side of Scott the public never sees. His triumph against cancer is just one part of his inspirational and touching story. I hope he will write more about his life and continue skating now that he is unretired.

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