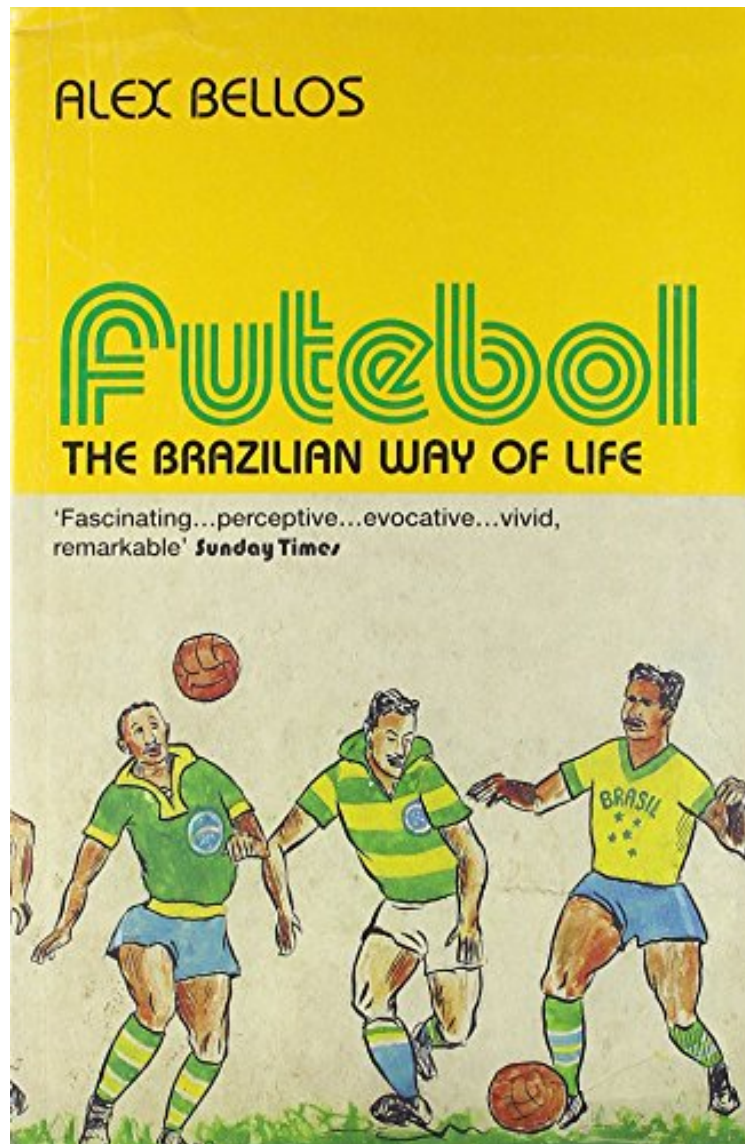


[Ebook pdf] Futebol: The Brazillian Way of Life

Futebol: The Brazillian Way of Life

Alex Bellos

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Alex Bellos : Futebol: The Brazillian Way of Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Futebol: The Brazillian Way of Life:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Samba Soccer At Its BestBy Steve AmoiaAlex Bellos, a British journalist for the Observer and Guardian, does an excellent job with this tremendously researched book. He takes the reader across the sprawling expanse of continental Brazil, and we are left with a very candid view about "futebol," along with its history, traditions, innovations, humorous characters, corruption, but above all, that it is underlying glue

uniting a very diverse nation. One can argue that soccer is the common religion of Brazil. Perhaps more apt would be to say that Brazil is the temple for those who worship world soccer. We have found our Holy Book in this work by Mr. Bellos. Mr. Bellos paints an interesting portrait, and interviewed hundreds of people for this book. Famous players, priests, soothsayers, a superfan, presidents of local teams, coaches, and everyday Brazilians whose lives are defined by soccer. He even ventured to the obscure Faroe Islands of the frigid North Atlantic to meet with a few of the "Brazilian Foreign Legion" that plys their trade in far off lands. His recounting of the story of Mane' Garrincha, a tragic Brazilian legend, was captivating. As was his interview with Socrates, a famous player and social activist from the great 1982 Brazilian National Team. Of course, no book about Brazilian football could exempt a story about Pele'. His descriptions and historical context about the region were very intriguing, along with the "Big Zero" marker between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Mr. Bellos is a reporter who is not afraid to get his feet wet. Both figuratively and literally. :-)

This book contains more than the theme of soccer. Mr. Bellos describes the social inequalities of Brazil, its unique culture, governmental apparatus, and many local vignettes that make this a very educational read. If you have a passion for futebol brasileiro, you will enjoy this book. Even if you are not a soccer fan, this book will educate you about a country that is defined by its national sport, but has much more to offer to the world. Thank you for the opportunity to review this excellent book.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Superbly explains the joy and beauty of Brazilian Soccer. By J. Wright. The author has superbly combined sports journalism with anthropological analysis and written a splendid book. If you like soccer, or want to know why Brazil has won the World Cup five times, this book will explain it. If you want to understand the nuances of Brazilian culture, this book explains it through Soccer. I especially enjoyed the chapters on Garrincha and the 'Pelada' in Manaus. In addition, the sense of humor that the author has is funny, and provides great insight into Brazilian life. In short, highly recommended.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. great overview of Brazil. By greenstrat. great overview of Brazil, their game, and their legends.. my wife is from Brazil and I read it so I could talk to her brother and dad (or at least try to talk LOL). Garrincha is a hero down there.

The Brazilian football team is one of the modern wonders of the world. At its best it exudes a skill, flamboyance and romantic pull like nothing else on earth. Football is how the world sees Brazil and how Brazilians see themselves. The game symbolises racial harmony, flamboyance, youth, innovation and skill, and yet football is also a microcosm of Latin America's largest country and contains all of its contradictions. Travelling extensively from the Uruguayan border to the northeastern backlands, from the coastal cities of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo to the Amazon jungle - Bellos shows how Brazil changed football and how football shaped Brazil. He tells the stories behind the great players, like Pele and Garrincha, between the great teams, like Corinthians and Vasco de Gama, and the great matches, as well as extraordinary stories from people and pitches all over this vast country. With an unerring eye for a good story and a marvellous ear for the voices of the people he meets, Alex Bellos describes the startling range of football spinoffs found in Brazil; from Autoball, literally football with cars and a giant leather ball to Ecoball, played in the heart of the rainforest, from Button football and its highly regulated procedures organised by fearsome Buttonistas to the truly alarming Football (yes with bulls).

'Entertaining and richly informative' Daily Telegraph 'Wacky ... spectacular' Daily Mirror 'Hugely entertaining ... wonderfully researched' New Statesman 'An affectionate and shrewd account of the game ... The book is full of intriguing sidelights on Brazilian popular culture; its hedonism, piety and wondrous absurdity' Guardian

From the Publisher "Compelling...Alternately funny and dark...Bellos offers a cast of characters as colorful as a Carnival parade." -Publishers Weekly (starred review) "It's a bonus that Bellos' aim is not just to amuse, but to find meaning and context behind the spectacle...Bellos weaves a tapestry of contemporary Brazil from football threads as divergent as the great Pel and the glamorous Roza FC, perhaps the world's only all-transvestite team...rich and colorful." -New York Newsday "Required reading." -Soccer America "Alex Bellos traces [soccer's] evolution in Brazil, and emerges with a fascinating portrait of Brazil itself, a land of deep contradictions and an even deeper love for the game that bridges those contradictions...With a seasoned reporter's knack for dredging up curios, he unveils one variation on the game after another." -San Antonio Express News

About the Author Alex Bellos is the correspondent for the Guardian and the Observer in Rio de Janeiro where he has lived and worked for four years. This is his first book.