



Namaste, Geezer

By Shekhar Bhatia

Key features

- Revealing, trenchant memoir by a rare Asian-heritage football fan and top national newspaper reporter
- Confronts racism in football and Fleet Street
- Tells inside stories of huge football events, from the Heysel disaster to World Cups
- Lifts the lid on life as a newspaper reporter, including covering the death of Princess Diana
- Contains a vivid account of encountering prejudice when taking his actress wife, Meera Syal, to what proved to be her one and only football match
- Details why the author can no longer support the England football team
- Explains a personal boycott of the author's beloved West Ham at the signing of Lee Bowyer
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

Namaste, Geezer is a revealing and trenchant memoir by one of England's top national newspaper reporters, who has seen and covered it all, from the Heysel disaster to World Cups, plus the death of Princess Diana. Most football fans who grew up loving the game in the hooliganism-blighted 1970s probably experienced running from opposition fans at some point. For Shekhar Bhatia, the menacing enemy was within – the nastier, right-wing elements among fans of his own team. Taken to West Ham by his father, who arrived in Britain from India in the late 1950s, young Shekhar just could not understand the hate directed towards rare Asian-heritage fans back then, and has since spent a lifetime steering a path between his loyalty to the Hammers and racism in the game. Often shocking, ultimately joyous, this is a tale of rising above prejudice to fulfil ambitions, in both football and journalism.

Details

Publication: 20 May 2024
Price: £9.99
ISBN 13: 9781801509787
Format: 198mm x 129mm
Binding: Paperback
Extent: 160 pages
Category: Football

Trade Orders to:

Macmillan Distribution (MDL),
Cromwell Place, International Business Park,
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