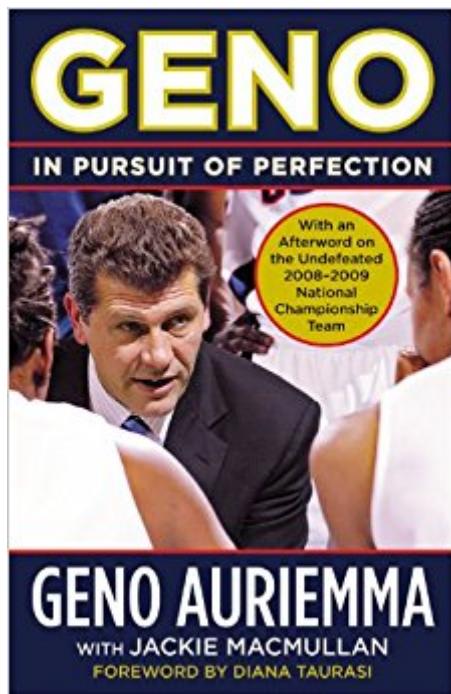


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# Geno: In Pursuit Of Perfection



## **Synopsis**

Controversial, confrontational, and driven, Coach Geno Auriemma is a force to be reckoned with - and the most accomplished male coach in women's basketball today. In his relentless quest for excellence at the University of Connecticut, he has led the Huskies to five national championships. "Yet his soul never rests. For Auriemma, life affords only the briefest moments of happiness - a good round of golf, forty minutes of great basketball, a day at the beach with his family, a nice glass of wine - while disaster is seemingly always waiting to strike. It's a fatalistic philosophy, a remnant of his hardscrabble early years, but it's an outlook that has driven him to unparalleled success." "In this deeply personal memoir, Geno Auriemma reveals for the first time the man behind the legend. He talks candidly about his coaching style - famed for being one of the most demanding in all the sports world. He spills the beans about his stormy dealings with other coaches such as his archrival, Pat Summitt of the University of Tennessee. And with warmth and a genuine love for his champions, he writes openly about Diana Taurasi, Sue Bird, Nykesha Sales, Rebecca Lobo, Swin Cash, and all of his other UConn stars who have gone on to stellar WNBA careers. You get a courtside seat to all of the action - including an epilogue on the 2004-05 season, as well as interviews with the team's most celebrated players."--BOOK JACKET.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

If nothing else, Auriemma, coach of the UConn women's basketball team since 1985, explains how little girls in Connecticut inherited the dreams of little boys in Indiana. The rise of a program with a leaky gym and roll-away bleachers to become a powerhouse with five national championships is a

Hoosier-like tale. But Auriemma's book is merely the bones of the story, a slapdash chronicle of seasons. In his talky style, he is unable to flesh out the characters, and his anecdotes are stiff. One exception is his depiction of star Diana Taurasi cracking during a challenging season: "sitting on a bench, swaying back and forth and banging her elbows against the wall.... She is in withdrawal, like some kind of drug addict." On Auriemma's team, breakdowns are a good sign because they mean hunger. He prods individuals by saying things like "You suck" and "You are never going to make it." Auriemma's caustic style has earned him many critics, and his autobiography is more about self-defense than reflection. Nonetheless, it gives readers a chance to eavesdrop on the strategy of a hall-of-famer who chased perfection to the top. Auriemma's book will leave readers wishing he had told his story betterâ "written his heart out, even. (Jan.) Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Auriemma is one of the most successful college basketball coaches in the history of the sport, yet he is never mentioned in the same sentence as Dean Smith or Mike Krzyzewski. The reason? Auriemma coaches women's basketball at the University of Connecticut. In this revealing autobiography, written with the help of Boston Globe reporter MacMullan, Auriemma tells a version of the classic immigrant's journey. His parents immigrated to the U.S. from Italy when he was seven. He was the new kid, the kid who talked funny, and the poor kid. He has been catching up ever since. Like all successful coaches, he drives his players very hard, but unlike many--see Delsohn and Heisler's Bob Knight, reviewed on this page--he seems to be universally admired by his former players. He manages to convey his investment in his players' growth as human beings, not just as basketball players. In addition to telling his own story, Auriemma reflects insightfully on the growth of women's basketball. Wes LukowskyCopyright Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Great, intimate portrayal of a coach as well as a consummate father. Coach Aureima reminds me of a military father. His intensity is as prevalent as flash fire. Yet, his compassion is like an iceberg. Thoroughly enjoyed the details of the stories about his players. Equally enjoyed his depiction of the relationship with uconn vs Tenn and Geno vs Pat. Finally, as McMillan details the stories of the closeness he has with his players, this book leaves me with greater respect for Coach Geno and his players. Moreover, Bria Hartley said, through tears: "You made me the person I am today."

Really great insights into Mr. Auriemma. A lot of young people could learn from his tough-as-nails demands of his players. The book was in really good shape and came on time.

Great book, Great Coach, Great Team! Thanks so much for such quick service.

Geno is one of the most winning NCAA ladies basketball coaches of all time. He has singlehandedly put Connecticut on the college sports map. He's tough but they (the lady players) LOVE him and it shows. I'm not biased at all but I live in CT and have never missed a Lady Huskies game or parade yet!!

A phenomenal story. This is not a book about x's and o's. It is the true story about how one man's commitment to excellence brought about something that does not seem possible, even after it happened. There has to be another book at the end of the road, "Geno, The Rest of the Story".

I've followed the UConn women's basketball team for several years and admire the success Geno has gotten from his players and now better understand his methods. Good read !

It was repetitive in that it provided some biography followed by player references, but nothing of substance for me.

Great 420 book

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