

Never Die Easy: The Unforgettable Life of Walter Payton, An NFL Legend



Walter Payton was one of the greatest running backs in NFL history. He played for the Chicago Bears for 13 seasons and set numerous records, including most career rushing yards (16,726). Payton was also known for his toughness and durability, and was nicknamed "Sweetness" for his kind and gentle demeanor off the field.

In his autobiography, *Never Die Easy*, Payton tells the story of his life from his humble beginnings in Mississippi to his record-breaking career with the Bears. Payton's story is one of triumph, adversity, and perseverance, and is sure to inspire readers of all ages.



Never Die Easy: The Autobiography of Walter Payton

by Walter Payton

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1185 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 288 pages



Early Life

Walter Payton was born in Columbia, Mississippi, on July 25, 1954. He was the youngest of four children, and his parents worked hard to provide for their family. Payton grew up playing football with his brothers and friends, and he quickly developed a love for the game.

In high school, Payton was a star running back and linebacker. He led his team to a state championship in 1971, and was named the Mississippi Player of the Year. Payton was also a track and field standout, and he won the state championship in the 100-yard dash and the 220-yard dash.

College Career

After graduating from high school, Payton attended Jackson State University. He played running back for the Jackson State Tigers, and he quickly became one of the most dominant players in college football. In his four seasons at Jackson State, Payton rushed for over 3,500 yards and scored 46 touchdowns. He was named an All-American twice, and he led the Tigers to two Southwestern Athletic Conference championships.

NFL Career

Payton was drafted by the Chicago Bears with the fourth overall pick in the 1975 NFL Draft. He quickly became a star for the Bears, and he helped lead the team to the NFC Championship Game in his rookie season. Payton led the NFL in rushing yards in 1977, 1978, and 1985, and he was named the NFL MVP in 1977.

In 1984, Payton broke Jim Brown's NFL career rushing record. He finished his career with 16,726 rushing yards, which is still the NFL record today. Payton also scored 110 touchdowns in his career, which is second all-time behind Jerry Rice.

Retirement

Payton retired from the NFL after the 1987 season. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1993, and he was named to the NFL's 100th Anniversary All-Time Team in 1999.

After retiring from football, Payton worked as a sports commentator and motivational speaker. He was also involved in several charitable organizations, and he founded the Walter Payton Foundation, which provides scholarships to underprivileged students.

Legacy

Walter Payton is considered one of the greatest running backs in NFL history. He was a dominant player on the field, and he was also a kind and gentle person off the field. Payton's legacy will continue to inspire generations of football players and fans alike.

Never Die Easy

Payton's autobiography, *Never Die Easy*, is a must-read for any fan of football or sports. The book is an inspiring and emotional account of Payton's life, and it provides a unique glimpse into the mind of one of the greatest athletes of all time.

If you're looking for a book that will motivate you to achieve your dreams, then *Never Die Easy* is the book for you. Payton's story is a reminder that anything is possible with hard work and perseverance.



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