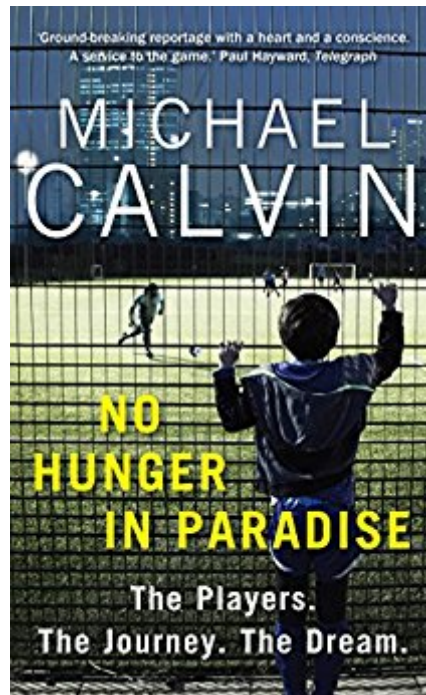




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No Hunger In Paradise: The Players. The Journey. The Dream



Synopsis

*Award-winning author of *The Nowhere Men* and *Living on the Volcano* is back to complete his football trilogy with a new book that tells the inside story of becoming a professional footballer. “What’s your dream, son?” A six year-old boy, head bowed, mumbles the eternal answer: “Be a footballer.” Steadman Scott, football’s most unlikely talent scout, smiles indulgently, and takes him in from the street. He knows the odds. Only 180 of the 1.5 million boys who play organised youth football in England will become a Premier League pro. That’s a success rate of 0.012 per cent. How and why do the favoured few make it? What separates the good from the great? Who should they trust – the coach, the agent or their parents? Michael Calvin provides the answers on a journey from non-league grounds to hermetically sealed Premier League palaces, via gang-controlled sink estates and the England team’s inner sanctum. He interviews decision makers, behavioural specialists, football agents and leading coaches. He shares the hopes and fears of players and their parents. He exposes bullying and a black economy in which children are commodities, but remains true to the dream.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It is one of the books I would have loved to love. But even though there is a lot of heart in the book it simply doesn't deliver on analysis. The premise that only 0,012 pct. makes it to the PL is about all the statistics you get. The rest is "I feel so sorry for the disillusioned youth" but in the end you know this is about talent and money in combination. And the book is about broken feelings so the balance is all wrong.

A brutally honest look at the flawed UK academy system that has ramifications on the future of football. Well researched and thought provoking. Highly recommended for football coaches at grassroots

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