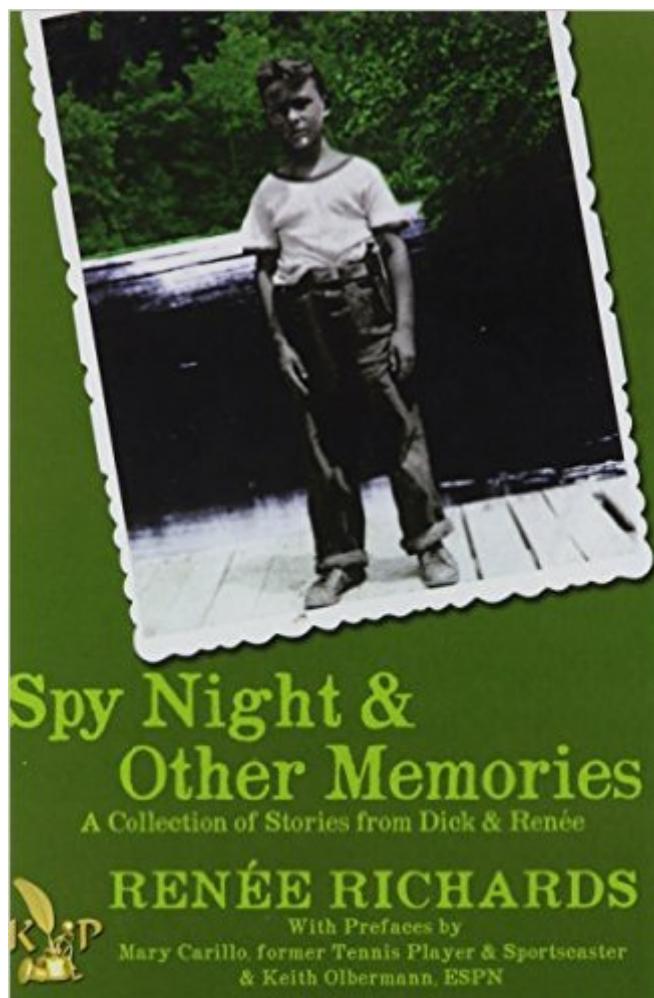


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Spy Night And Other Memories A Collection Of Stories From Dick And Renée



Synopsis

In the latter part of the 20th century, I was perhaps the most notorious person in the world who had become a woman after growing up a boy and then a man. My fame came after I sued the tennis organizations, successfully, to be allowed to compete as a woman professional in the U.S. Open Tennis championships in 1977. I became in an instant a pioneer for sexually disenfranchised people. After playing on the professional tour for five years, I coached all-time champion Martina Navratilova to several major championships and then returned to my main occupation of eye surgeon and physician. I wrote one textbook on eye muscle surgery, but I am better known for my two autobiographies, *Second Serve* and *No Way RenÃ©e*. In the present century I am hardly known in the public world at all, save for a few tennis fans who recognize and greet me at the U.S. Open every summer. This collection of stories has nothing to do with my odyssey from man to woman, that subject is well covered in the autobiographies. In fact, the stories have nothing to do with sex, or gender. I wrote these stories to chronicle some of my life apart from what I was notorious for-interesting things I experienced unrelated to my infamy. These stories are all mixed together, some written as "Dick," some as "RenÃ©e," some from childhood, others in my dotage. Some are from my life as a young doctor in training and then a Naval medical officer, some as a parent, some experiences with famous people-all written in the first person-Dick, RenÃ©e, doc, "super senior," whatever I was at the time. Like Papillon, the famous Frenchman who wrote about escaping from Devil's Island twice, he did have another life of great adventure. So did I.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a longtime email correspondent with the author, I was privy to this story and the others, enjoying them immensely. She is such a good short story writer I suggested she collect them into a book and publish them. I was sure they were worth a read as Dr. Richards has a way with words and is a gifted story teller. Not only that, but her stories were often about subjects not covered in her two autobiographies, *Second Serve* and *No Way RenÃ©e*. Many of her friends are famous athletes and she has met important and famous persons in her varied and active life. She knew Bobby Riggs and Billy Jean King and coached Martina Navratilova. Her lawyer who won the case for her playing on the professional circuit as a woman was the same who defended Ruby who famously shot and killed Oswald, the man who assassinated Jack Kennedy. Dr. Richard's life included friendships with the top people in various professions. The short stories include *Spynight*, the story of an amazing summer camp and vignettes from her Navy career as a man, as well as stories about some of her famous patients, one of whom, Keith Olbermann, had interesting things to say about her in his introduction. Tennis star Mary Carillo also had a penetrating anecdote at the beginning. Having read most of these stories before, I highly recommend the recent collection. I predict *Spynight* will become a great movie!

I enjoyed Keith Olbermann's introduction and Mary Carillo's vignette. *Spynight* was fascinating, about a great and unique summer camp. Some of the campers grew up to be famous and accomplished. Dickie was excited to be away from home for the first time, instead of terrified. Camp was a perfect blend of Nature, Freedom and Responsibility. I recommend this collection highly, easy reading and a sure fire page turner!

This is a delightful, light but at the same time serious book. Delightful in that the main story, *Spy Night*, reconstructs an age of innocence at a Connecticut summer boy's camp, light because it is fast and enjoyable, and serious because of the undercurrent of WWII -- what it was like growing up Jewish American during WWII. The human impact is strong. Dr. Richards is a talented author. Her other stories about the medical profession are full of insight, compassion and humor. FIVE STARS.

I am a medical school classmate of Dick's and although we have kept up over the years, I must admit to surprise at aspects his/her life I never knew about, and especially what a good writer she is. I highly recommend this book of readable unusual stories. There are easy reading chapters highlighting adventures of the young Dick Raskind and moving up to current times as Renee Richards. Interesting vignettes of tennis notables - Bobby Riggs, Billy Jean King, Martina Navratilova

among others - and Renee's further experiences over the years with tennis elite from her point of view. Finally some insight into her own struggles to make a difference in the world of professional tennis.

Captivating stories that entertain as they reveal a character of tremendous integrity and strength of purpose. A good read all by itself. There is no need to know much about the author beforehand. Relevant information is in the book.

Dr. Richards is an excellent writer, who writes in a very entertaining and thoughtful way, with a style that is fluid and easy to read. The stories are exception, I high recommend it!

Lawrence H. Mark also went to same Summer Camp and experienced "Spy Night". He thoroughly enjoyed the memories.

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