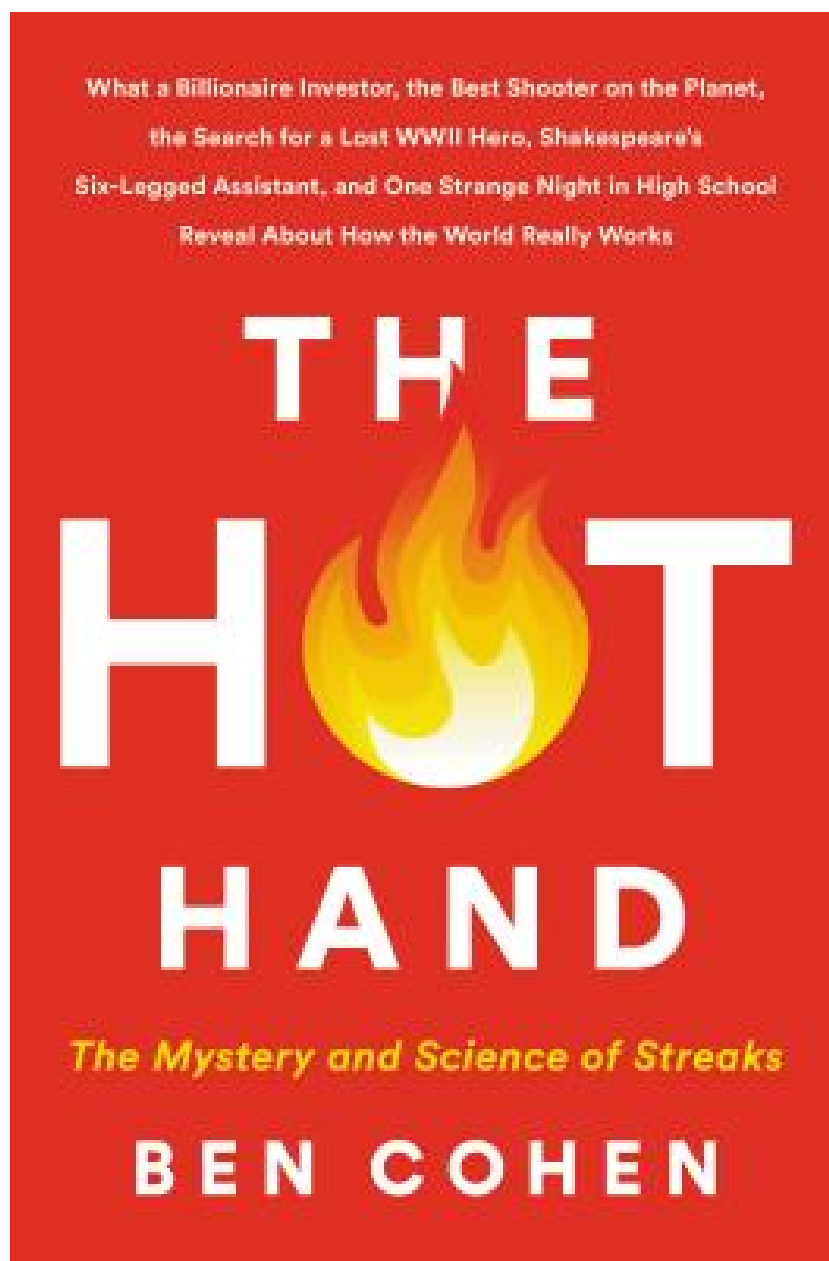


The Hot Hand: The Mystery and Science of Streaks Book PDF Download



By:
Ben Cohen

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What people Say:

Mac

Ben Cohen's

taught me a lot, not all of it about the "The Mystery and Science of Streaks." Here's what I learned.

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is full of interesting stories, most well told about a variety of fascinating people from many walks of life. The stories entertain, but some have nothing to do with the hot hand; some are so detailed, the relationship to the hot hand is lost, and some relate to the hot hand with only tangential connections. In this book, Cohen is trying to persuade, make an argument. He does do that, but his argument is lost among a broad collection of often irrelevant stories.

This intercutting technique can work if the various narratives ultimately weave a coherent whole, a fabric that fits together. However,

stop-and-start narrative seems designed to withhold information merely as a tease. As a result, the structure left me frustrated, not begging for more.

Amanda

Maybe it's my fault for overestimating how interested I was in finding out if the hot hand is real. I don't understand why so much time and money was spent trying to determine if the hot hand existed

or not. I don't understand why the book's timeline had to be so scattered, or why some of the stories were included. The writing was fine, besides that, and maybe to someone who is into the hot hand more than me, would enjoy it more.

Lee Woodruff

Is there truth or science behind a "running streak" of good luck, talent, winning or creativity? I love the genre that tackles issues or questions combining human psychology, data, trends and storytelling. Cohen's WSJ reporter background means he takes a compelling detective's journey using disparate case studies. The book's chapters range from a Russian prison to Steph Curry on the Warrior's basketball court, Wall Street and the Amazon jungle, to name just a few. The outcome? Streaks, formerly

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Nav S

I was excited to read this book because I'm a huge basketball fan and also because I've experienced "the hot hand" phenomenon couple of times myself while playing basketball, even though I'm not a pro by any means.

The book started off great, but it kind of went off the rails the further it went along. The author presented some interesting ideas and examples, but I feel that there were many times where the author was "reaching" with his examples to prove his point, especially his example regarding

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That being said, my biggest problem with the book is the complete mishandling of explaining the hot hand when it comes to basketball. Stephen Curry might be the greatest shooter of all time, but he's not the poster child of "The Hot Hand" phenomenon. That distinction belongs to his teammate and arguably the second best shooter of all time, Klay Thompson.

If someone asked you to prove The Hot Hand and you were only allowed to present one piece of evidence, you'd use this video:

...

On January 23, 2015, Klay Thompson scored 37 points in a SINGLE QUARTER against the Sacramento Kings by himself. He took shots after shots which he had no business of making, but all of them went down. He was simply unstoppable during that quarter or as Ben Cohen describes it in the book: "He was on FIRE." You have to see it to believe it.

Or what about the game against Indiana Pacers where Klay Thompson scored 60 points while dribbling the ball only 11 times and holding the ball for a sum total of only 90 seconds?

Overall, I kind of liked this book, but I hope that we'd get something better than this in the future to explain the hot hand phenomenon.

MIKE Watkins Jr.

Summary: I would recommend this for two reasons. 1. It's very well written (the author has some serious writing chops). 2. As far as I know there aren't really any other books that cover this subject extensively like this one does. But at the end of the day this book needed more focus and overall this work contains some notable flaws.

Pros:

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Pros:

1. The book really dives into data/evidence collected on streaks. It also provides anecdotal evidence through big time names like Steph curry and Shakespeare to showcase instances where the "hot hand" presented itself and what caused it to present itself.

2. The author is an amazing writer and showcases a talent for being able to break down sports, but also break down history, farming, poetry, and economics. Even though this book is a 3/5 for me...the author is a 4/5 talent in terms of his "writing chops" I hope he creates another book sometime in the future.

3. The author does a good job of connecting people from each example to other examples. For example a group of researchers who manifest a theory on the hot hand end up running into a prominent researcher mentioned extensively earlier in the book. The author also does a good job of showing a common denominator in a love for basketball among the various people featured in the. Book

Cons:

1. The last half of the book or so focuses more so on the various stories/examples than it does the hot hand itself. We learn more about Al-Saffar, Toby Moskowitz, and Carolyn Stein than we do about "the hot hand". Which is odd cause the first half is spot on in regards to staying on topic and getting to the point. Again I enjoyed each and every person that the book focused on because Ben Cohen managed to obtain so much information on each person, and has very impressive "writing chops". But at the end of the day I read this to learn about "the hot hand" not Raoul Wallenberg's brave exploits in Europe.