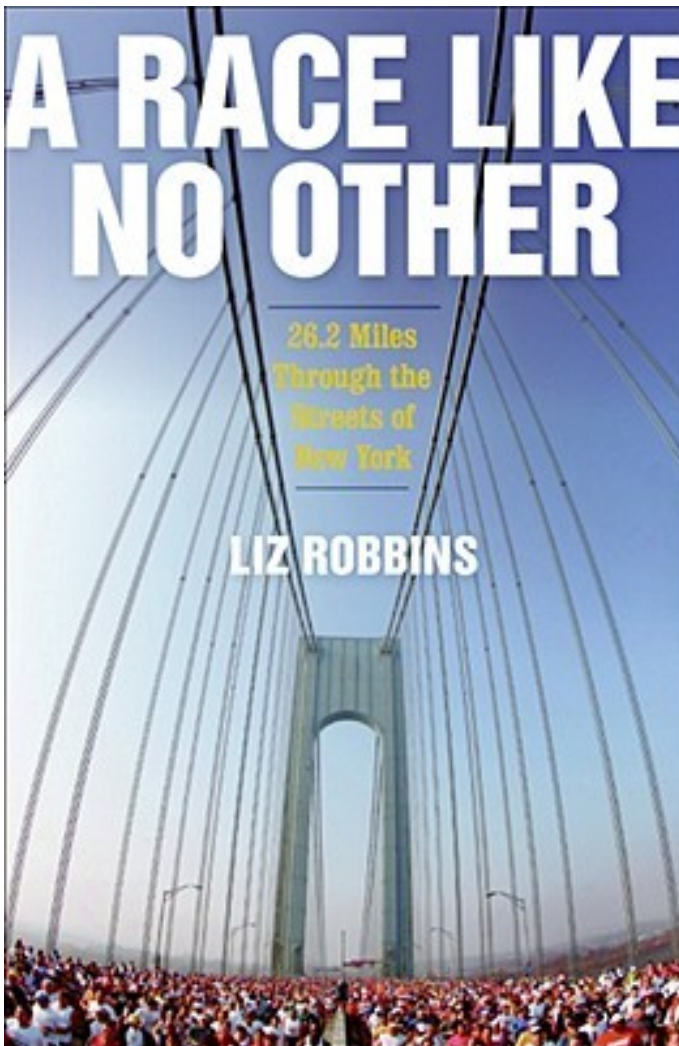


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**Liz Robbins**

**A Race Like No Other: 26.2 Miles Through the Streets of New York**



Title: A Race Like No Other: 26.2 Miles Through the Streets of New York

Author: Liz Robbins

Format: Hardcover

Language: English

Pages: 352

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0061373133

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 6.9 MB

Download: allowed

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## Description

When 39,195 competitors thunder over the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge to begin the thirty-eighth running of the famed New York City Marathon, they experience one of the most exhilarating moments in sports. But as they cross five towering bridges and five distinct boroughs, carried 26.2 miles by the cheers of two million fans and by their own indomitable wills, grueling challenges await them.

*New York Times* sportswriter Liz Robbins brings race day to life in this gripping saga of the 2007 Marathon, weaving the unforgettable stories of runners into a vibrant mile-by-mile portrait of the world's largest marathon.

The professionals pound out the suspense in two thrilling races. Paula Radcliffe, the women's world record holder from Great Britain, returns with new resolve after having given birth nine months earlier; Gete Wami, her longtime rival from Ethiopia, tries to win her second marathon in just five weeks; and Latvia's Jelena Prokopcuka desperately hopes for her third straight New York title.

If the women's race plays out like a mesmerizing chess game, then the men's race quickly turns into a high-speed car chase. South Africa's Hendrick Ramaala, eager to recapture glory at age 35, surges to lead the pack as Kenya's Martin Lel and Morocco's Abderrahim Goumri stay within striking range.

While the professionals offer insight into the intense, often painful experience of being an elite athlete, the amateurs provide timeless stories of courage and obsession that typify today's marathoner: Harrie Bakst, a cancer survivor at 22, who is a first-timer; Pam Rickard, a 45-year-old mother of three from Virginia, who is a recovering alcoholic; and 65-year-old Tucker Andersen, who has run the race every year since 1976.

Enlivening the history of the New York City Marathon with stories of such legends as the late Fred Lebow, the race's charismatic founder, and nine-time champion Grete Waitz, *A Race Like No Other* provides a curbside seat to the drama of the first Sunday in November. Feel the anxiety at the start in Staten Island. Listen to gospel choirs in Brooklyn and the accordion in Queens. Bask in the delirious sound tunnel of Manhattan's Upper East Side. Hit The Wall in the Bronx. And overcome agony in the last hilly miles before arriving in Central Park—exhausted yet exhilarated—at the finish line.

## Insightful reviews

TheAthleticPerformer: A "play by play" of-sorts of the 2007 New York City Marathon. This book highlights the very different journeys of some interesting runners, all of whom are at different stages in their running life. There is a great deal of focus on the women's and men's elite runners group, including the exciting drama that existed all the way until the end of the race between Paula Radcliffe and Gete Wami. This is an exciting compilation of the many inspiring and heartwarming stories of runners who decided to tackle the staggering 26.2 miles. They all

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had different reasons for running but there is one thing that united them: their desire to finish. This book has a "sport commentary" feel to it... I felt like I was reliving the live broadcast of the race!

It gives truth/proof to the saying that "anybody can run a marathon."  
Exciting read!

Drew: A great book which will take you through all 5 Burroughs and to the finish line along with some elite and age group runners as well. The author does a great job of balancing telling the history of the race and how it came to be, taking people along the race so that they can experience the marathon, and giving the reader background on the people she is talking about. A fun read for those who have run the NYC marathon allowing them to relive their race, and a must read for those who want to run it!

Nick: A Race Like No Other describes in great detail the 2007 New York City Marathon. The author expertly captures the essence of the race and provides the reader with a rare vicarious treat of what is like to run one of the greatest marathons on the planet. The book focuses primarily on a few key players to illustrate the impact of the marathon from multiple perspectives. [return][return]The story was not without flaws. Just as the action was heating up and you couldn't wait for the next mile the author interjected a bit of race history. The information was interesting and it certainly belonged in this story, but I do question the placement of some of these factoids. On occasion, the ill-placed historical tid-bits broke up the pacing and gave this reader an excuse to put the book down and come back to it later. A few editorial adjustments and this book would have five star potential.[return][return]There is clearly something magical about this race and after reading this book I think I will be adding the New York City Marathon to the bucket list. Recommended reading for runners and non-runners alike.

Jennifer: This non-fiction account of the 2007 ny urban marathon was once packed with fascinating proof approximately either operating and NYC, however the solid of characters that the writer was once huge, and that i had a difficult time keeping an eye on who used to be who. i finished up skimming alongside until eventually I stumbled on somebody i used to be drawn to and collected their storyline again. The writing was once definitely accessible, however the tone used to be fairly dry, proof indexed logically rather than lyrically. This used to be no Omnivore's Dilemma, which to me moves the right stability among storytelling and truth sharing.

Tatiana Morari: i believe like i stopped a marathon myself. certainly encouraged to soak up operating extra heavily and wish that in the future i'm going to end in crucial Park

Katherine: Very quick learn and nice for a person who has performed or may be education for a marathon. I cherished the combo tales combined with tales of standard folks. The writing isn't really really special, yet the entire stuff is there: the evidence and the emotional pulls. I expert for my 1st marathon in 2007 - the race profiled here. I proficient in NYC and ran in Richmond. Then, I received to run NYC in 2009. So, i'm in detail conversant in the working grounds within the ebook and the race day experience. Plan to offer to the fiance for a learn earlier than he begins education for NYC this year.

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