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Indy: The Race and Ritual of the Indianapolis 500 (2nd Revised edition)

By Terry Reed

Potomac Books Inc. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, *Indy: The Race and Ritual of the Indianapolis 500 (2nd Revised edition)*, Terry Reed, In a nation that worships the automobile for the freedom, style, and status that it confers, the Indianapolis 500, run on or near Memorial Day eighty-seven times, is an annual rite of passage celebrating Americans' love affair with speed. *Indy* recounts the drivers (677 men and 3 women) who have gone to Indianapolis in the past ninety-five years to live their dreams, staking their lives on the outcome. It highlights the faces in the crowd: hardworking Americans, tinhorn celebrities, hookers, movie stars, gate-crashers, and five American presidents. Terry Reed focuses his narrative on the track's four quarter-mile-long turns, each the site of triumphs (including those of such multiple winners as Billy Vukovich, A. J. Foyt, and Helio Castroneves); grisly deaths (at least sixty-six, including three unrelated men of the same unusual last name who died in the same turn but in different decades); and bizarre heroics (like the sans souci French driver who downed champagne throughout the 1913 Indy 500 and still won). Reed also examines *Indy*'s confluence of racing and aeronautics (World War I flying ace...



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