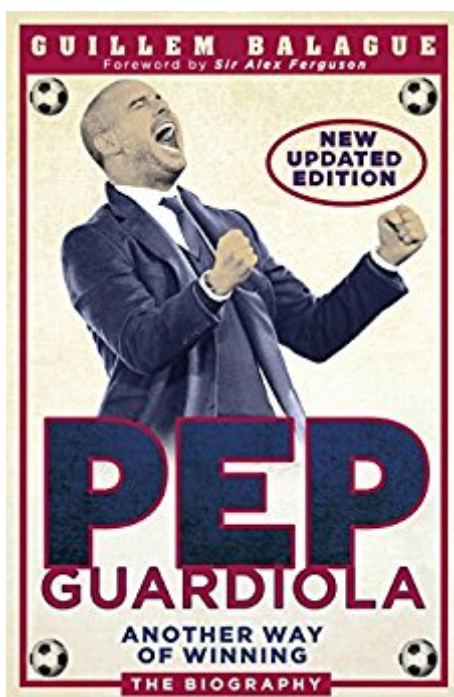


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# Pep Guardiola: Another Way Of Winning: The Biography



## Synopsis

'Pep' Guardiola has transformed Barcelona into arguably the greatest club side of all time, and this entertainingly perceptive biography explains how. Guardiola spent the majority of his playing days with Barca and was an integral part of Johan Cruyff's European Cup-winning 'dream team'. But it was on retiring from playing that he really made his mark on the club. After travelling the world, he became a coach of the Barcelona reserve team, and a year later, in 2008, he was appointed the first-team manager. The club went on to win an unprecedented 13 of the 16 competitions they entered under his leadership, and he became the youngest ever manager to win the Champions League. Then, at the end of the 2012 season, after having been awarded the FIFA WORLD COACH OF THE YEAR, he resigned following four years of unprecedented achievement. He immediately became the most sought-after free-agent in football, and his next move was keenly anticipated. Some call Guardiola's influence on Barca revolution, others evolution. Whatever the answer, the impact he has had goes beyond football. He represents a style, a club, a country and even old-fashioned values, at a time when they seem so scarce. Guillem Balagué's insightful book reveals how Pep Guardiola's Barcelona played the 'Beautiful Game' - and won.

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## Customer Reviews

Balague's biography on Guardiola left me wondering if there really was another way of winning. The book barely gives any insights into Guardiola's mind perhaps as a testament to the Spaniard's reluctance to open up to the press. I would have expected a bit more comments on the subject itself from close relatives; comments or even anecdotes from important figures such as Bielsa, Begiristain or even FCB 'exes' Laporta or Rossell would have made an important contribution both historically as well as tactically to the book. I was left with a feeling that most of the research for this book came from two or three other books related to Barcelona and which the author refers to in his narrative. I am already through the first chapter on one of these books and I can't believe the amount of information that has been sourced, IMHO, from it. One funny story happened to me when I was looking for information to read about the Spaniard and the press was coming up with stories about Guardiola signing for a new club. An Italian sports broadcaster broke news that he had already signed for a German club (another FCB, LOL) and Balague's twitter account and blog page said specifically that he didn't, not yet, and that he needed time. By the following week the German club confirmed not only that he was already on-board, but that he was signed months before. I guess that tells you how much the subject and his author worked together on this book.

I was so pleased to have purchased this one! I love Barcelona football, am a great admirer of Pep Guardiola and it was a delight to find out what went on behind the scenes. From never being a fan of Bayern Munich, I now watch some of their games and follow what's going on, all due to Pep! Thank you for a book that I couldn't put down.

This book gives fantastic insight to Guardiola & Barcelona. What they managed to achieve is nothing short of extraordinary and this book gives intimate knowledge as to events going on behind the scenes that fans aren't typically aware of. Kudos to the author and everyone that's a part of arguably the greatest football team in the history of the sport.

Always wondered what great coaches say to their teams to get the best out of them and Balague provides lots of behind the scenes examples of how Guardiola motivates his Barca team. This book is mostly about Guardiola the manager. I only wished that it covered more of Guardiola the player. Still, this is one of the best football books I have read (and I have read many!).

Well written, backed with a lot of first hand information. Good book to have to analyze this 4 outstanding and wonderful years

I am a huge football fan and an avid reader of biographies, therefore the release of Guardiola's book was extremely exciting. The biography takes the reader through Guardiola's experience in Barcelona FC, from the time he was recruited as a boy into Barcelona's youth system, through his time as a Barcelona player, as its captain, and as most recently as its coach. Perhaps the greatest merit of the book is that it manages to cover Guardiola's entire life and that it gives a full insight into what it is to be brought up in Barcelona's system. It gives some insight into the Barcelona youth system mentality and also how Guardiola developed to be a highly strategic player and coach. It also tackles why Guardiola left Barcelona and attempts to explain the demons haunting him. The weakness is the lack of depth: the author is too detached from Guardiola and gives an outsider's perspective of Guardiola. I do not believe the author properly understood the Barcelona mentality, how Guardiola felt going through it, what captured his attention, and how he thinks as a coach. The author clearly did a lot of background research into Guardiola, but I would question how much time he was able to spend with Guardiola and with his friends to fully understand the man he writes about. The reason for my low rating is that this book only scratches the surface in what it feels like to grow up in Barcelona's system, and how Guardiola thinks as a player and as a coach. Rather, it is a good chronology of Guardiola's life. I am left wanting more. I recommend reading the book if you are passionate about Barcelona or Pep Guardiola. If you only have a passing interest in the topic, or simply like sports biographies, there are many better written ones. I recommend "Open" by Andre Agassi.

The club went on to win an unprecedented thirteen of the sixteen competitions they entered under his leadership - Guillem Balague  
In 2008 Pep Guardiola was appointed first-team manager of FC Barcelona. What entailed in the following seasons was the most spectacular revolution of all times in football. FC Barcelona went on winning every possible club title in the world. With a playing style that was totally innovative Pep Guardiola managed perfection season after season. Pep Guardiola is a very discrete man of the field. On the field he transforms himself. Energetic, audacious, innovative he managed FC Barcelona during the most epic campaign in modern football. Guillem Balague's flow and mastery of the game is a big plus for this book. He knows every detail of the beautiful game and that is shown in the entire book. If you are into football this is the ideal book for you. If you

enjoy biographies then this is a must. Plain and simple. A must have in your football collection. If you enjoyed reading Sir Alex Ferguson biography, then this book is for you. If you are a big FC Barcelona fan you might enjoy reading this book also Objective Barcelona: How To Beat The Most Powerful Team In The World (Kindle Version) I have an iPad and the book display perfectly on the device. Please, if you found this review helpful please rate it accordingly! Thank you

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