



The Legend of Bagger Vance: A Novel of Golf and the Game of Life

By Steven Pressfield

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In the Depression year of 1931, on the golf links at Krewe Island off Savannah's windswept shore, two legends of the game—Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen—meet for a mesmerizing thirty-six-hole showdown. Another golfer will also compete—a troubled local war hero, once a champion, who comes with his mentor and caddie, the mysterious Bagger Vance. It is Vance, sage and charismatic, who will ultimately guide the match, for he holds the secret of the Authentic Swing. And he alone can show his protege the way back to glory.

Written in the spirit of *Golf in the Kingdom* and *The Natural*, *The Legend of Bagger Vance* reveals the true nature of the game in a story that is unforgettable.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Set in the 1930s, this somewhat mystical novel concerns a pair of golf legends, a war hero and a mysterious and gifted caddie.

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From School Library Journal

YA?Elderly Hardison L. Greaves describes a memorable golf match he witnessed as a child in the 1930s to a medical student who is nearing burn-out. In the match, golf-great Bobby Jones plays Walter Hagen; to generate local support, World War I hero Rannulph Junah is asked to participate. He declines at first, but then his companion, Bagger Vance, offers to caddy for him. It becomes apparent that Vance is more than a companion; he is the man's mentor and spiritual advisor. Although looked upon with disdain by the golfers and spectators, Vance, who is black, counsels Junah to look for his Authentic Swing. The symbolism is apparent; Junah finds not only his golf swing, but also himself. Pressfield's story will be of interest to students. Its mysticism promotes thought, and golf references are simple enough for nonplayers.?Diane Goheen, Topeka West High School, KS

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From Library Journal

The message of this parable is that golf is like life and that both can be inspired by New Age beliefs about man and the cosmos. The incarnation of divine knowledge, black, middle-aged Bagger Vance, is the caddie and mentor of war hero and former champion amateur golfer, Rannulph Junah. The year is 1931, and, as a publicity stunt for the opening of a new Savannah golf course, Junah tees off against Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen in an exhibition match. Junah plays poorly during the first few holes, but under Vance's tutelage he changes his game and his life. This first novel is saved from pretentiousness by the engaging voice of its narrator, an old man who was with Vance and Junah on that memorable day and who is now recalling what happened as he tries to convince a young friend to remain in medical school. His voice not only coaxes the reader into suspending disbelief but also transforms the game of golf into an exciting adventure. For most popular collections.

Charles Michaud, Turner Free Lib., Randolph, Mass.

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Alan Castorena:

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Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you could have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love The Legend of Bagger Vance: A Novel of Golf and the Game of Life, you can enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Charles Buffington:

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