

KIRKUS REVIEWS

TITLE INFORMATION

LINDRUM: THE UNCROWNED KING

Dr. Janne Clara Lindrum

The Uncrowned King pty ltd

(492 pp.)

Ebook, \$9.99 Paperback, \$17.20

ISBN: 978-0648042600; October 31, 2016

BOOK REVIEW

A daughter's fervent attempt to reclaim her father's place in sporting history results in a biography that is as impassioned as it is uneven.

Janne Clara Lindrum chronicles the life of Horace Lindrum, a dominant yet largely overlooked figure in billiards and snooker, framing him as a champion denied his rightful recognition. Drawing from family archives and personal memory, the author constructs a narrative that blends documented history with dramatic interpretation. The result is a work that often feels more like a tribute than a fully balanced biography.

Lindrum's prose is vivid and occasionally theatrical, lending energy to the recounting of matches, rivalries, and personal struggles. At its best, the book captures the tension between public achievement and private hardship, particularly in its portrayal of a career shaped by war and circumstance. However, the narrative's reliance on familial perspective sometimes undermines its authority, as competing viewpoints and broader historical context receive limited attention.

The book's central argument that Horace Lindrum has been unjustly diminished in the annals of sport is presented with conviction, though not always with sufficient critical distance. Readers may find themselves questioning the extent to which the author's proximity to her subject shapes the interpretation of events. Even so, the depth of research and the inclusion of archival material provide moments of genuine insight.

While the biography succeeds in drawing attention to an underrecognized figure, it struggles to fully transcend its personal origins. Those seeking an objective, rigorously contextualized account may be left wanting, but readers open to a more intimate, advocacy-driven narrative will find it engaging.

Verdict: A passionate but partial portrait that restores attention to a forgotten champion, even if it stops short of definitive historical reassessment.