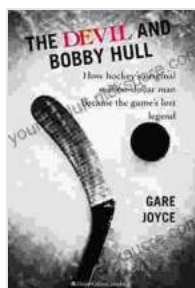


# The Devil and Bobby Hull: A Hockey Legend's Pact with the King of Hell

The world of sports is filled with stories of extraordinary achievements, superhuman feats, and unconventional paths to greatness. Among these tales, the legend of Bobby Hull stands out as a captivating blend of hockey prowess, controversy, and a purported pact with the Devil himself. This article delves into the life and career of Bobby Hull, exploring the rumors, allegations, and anecdotes that have woven a shroud of mystery around the hockey legend's ascent to stardom.

## Bobby Hull: The Golden Jet

Born Robert Marvin Hull on January 3, 1939, in Point Anne, Ontario, Canada, Bobby Hull was destined to become one of the greatest hockey players of all time. He inherited his passion for the sport from his father, Robert Edward Hull, who played semi-professional hockey. From a young age, Hull exhibited exceptional skating and scoring abilities, earning him the nickname "The Golden Jet" for his blazing speed and explosive shots.



## The Devil And Bobby Hull: How Hockey's Original Million-Dollar Man Became the Game's Lost Legend

by Jeremy Klaff

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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## **A Promise to the Devil**

The legend of Bobby Hull's pact with the Devil emerged during his early days as a hockey prodigy. According to rumors, a teenage Hull was approached by a mysterious stranger on the frozen surface of a lake. The stranger, believed to be the Devil in disguise, offered Hull supernatural help in exchange for signing a contract. Desperate for success, Hull is said to have agreed.

The terms of the pact allegedly involved Hull selling his soul to the Devil for five years of unparalleled hockey supremacy. In return, Hull would become the fastest and most lethal scorer in the game. It is said that Hull's signature flourish—a devastating slapshot that became his trademark—was a manifestation of the demonic powers bestowed upon him.

## **Meteoric Rise to Stardom**

Immediately following the supposed agreement, Hull's career took an unprecedented trajectory. He joined the Chicago Black Hawks in 1957 and quickly established himself as a scoring machine. With his blinding speed, pinpoint accuracy, and uncanny ability to read the ice, Hull terrorized opposing goalies and set new NHL records at a dizzying pace.

In the 1960-1961 season, Hull shattered the NHL's single-season goal-scoring record, netting 54 goals in just 70 games. This record stood for almost 20 years until Wayne Gretzky surpassed it in the 1981-1982

season. Hull's scoring exploits earned him the Hart Memorial Trophy as the NHL's Most Valuable Player in 1965 and again in 1966.

## **Controversy and Speculation**

The remarkable upswing in Hull's performance fueled the rumors of a pact with the Devil. Skeptics dismissed the tales as mere superstition or an attempt to diminish his achievements. However, Hull's enigmatic personality and outspoken nature only added to the intrigue surrounding him.

In a 1968 interview, Hull was asked directly about the pact. His response was cryptic and open to interpretation: "I'm not saying I didn't. I'm not saying I did. I don't know. Maybe it did, maybe it didn't." Hull's refusal to categorically deny the rumors only served to fan the flames of speculation.

## **Legacy and Impact**

Bobby Hull's career spanned two decades and left an indelible mark on the game of hockey. He retired in 1980 after playing 1,063 regular-season games and scoring 610 goals. He was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1983 and his iconic No. 9 jersey has been retired by the Chicago Black Hawks.

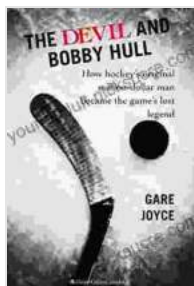
The legacy of Bobby Hull extends beyond his on-ice accomplishments. His alleged pact with the Devil has become a part of hockey lore and continues to fascinate fans and players alike. Whether one believes the rumors or not, there is no denying the allure of the legend and its role in shaping Bobby Hull's unforgettable story.

## **The Pact's Aftermath**

The purported pact with the Devil is said to have come at a cost for Bobby Hull. After the expiration of his five-year deal, it is rumored that Hull's career began a gradual decline. Injuries and personal issues plagued him, and his scoring prowess diminished. Hull retired from hockey in 1980, never quite reaching the same heights as he had during his "pact" years.

Some believe that the Devil exacted his due after Hull's contract expired, while others attribute his decline to natural aging and the rigors of professional hockey. Regardless of the truth, the legend of the pact continues to haunt Hull's legacy, adding an element of mystery and intrigue to his already remarkable career.

Bobby Hull's story is a captivating tale of hockey greatness, controversy, and the enduring power of human ambition. Whether or not the legend of his pact with the Devil holds any truth, it is undeniable that Hull was an extraordinary athlete whose extraordinary achievements and enigmatic personality have left an unforgettable mark on the world of hockey. The legend of Bobby Hull and the Devil is a testament to the allure of the unknown and the enduring fascination with the intersection of sports and the supernatural.



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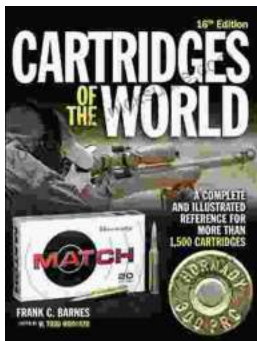
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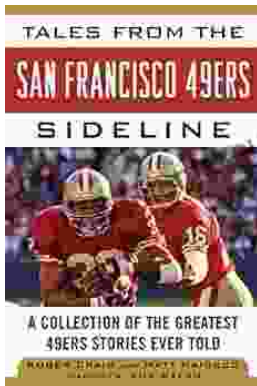
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