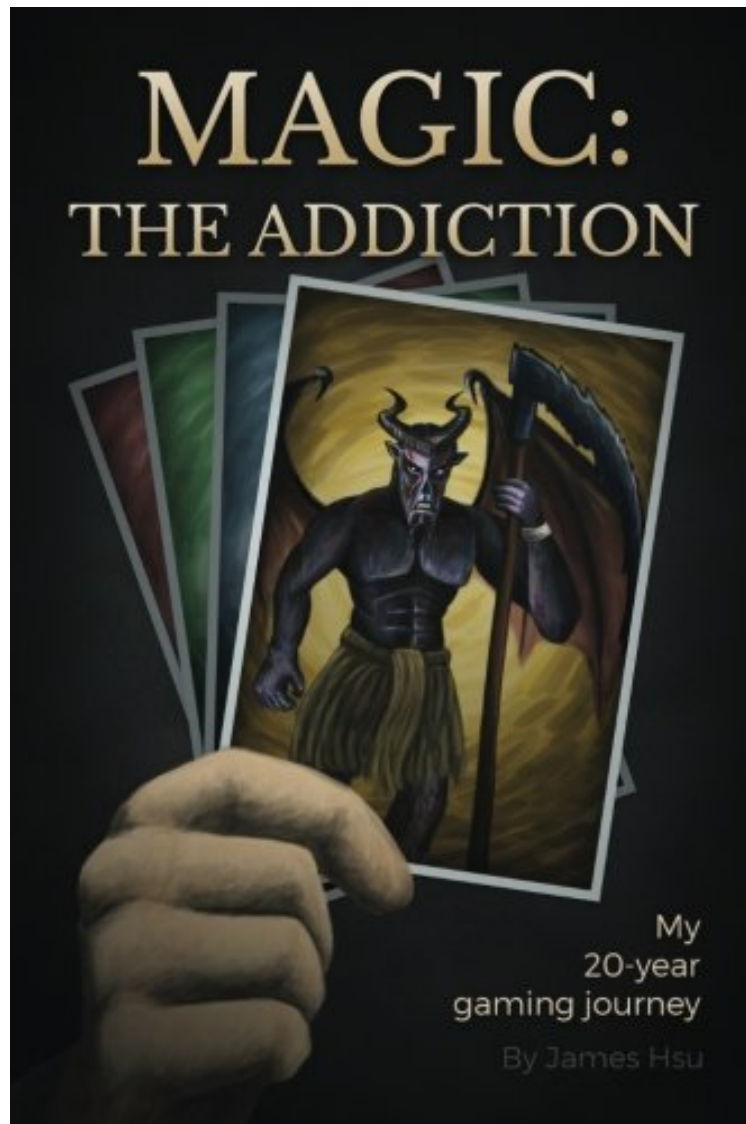


[Library ebook] Magic: The Addiction: My 20-Year Gaming Journey

Magic: The Addiction: My 20-Year Gaming Journey

James Hsu

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#2197996 in Books Hsu James 2016-05-03Original language:English 9.00 x .44 x 6.00l, .59 #File Name: 1532963874194 pagesMagic The Addiction My 20 Year Gaming Journey | File size: 53.Mb

James Hsu : Magic: The Addiction: My 20-Year Gaming Journey before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Magic: The Addiction: My 20-Year Gaming Journey:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. 'Magic' is mesmerizing for giving a view as both the audience and from behind the stage.By Victor LegrosJust wrapped up reading this. As a long-time player of Magic the Gathering, and being familiar with growing up as an introverted kid trying to find balance and meaning with his choices, there's a natural affinity for the subject matter described by the author.The appeal of "Magic: The Addiction" goes beyond that

of a story that is auto-biographic however; it says something a bit grander; that why we do things is more important than what is done, that the lens of our memories and self-reflection play a powerful role in shaping ourselves and self-identity, and that in the moment and thinking of the future, it is a constant journey to realize the version of ourselves we would like to be. My criticisms, and reason for taking off a star, are that the amount of discussion about the game itself and joy derived from it may be a distraction for a more casual reader. That said, it's difficult for a non-gamer and non-player of Magic to truly appreciate the sort of hold "MTG" can have on the right type of mind, so I understand why it's there. Overall, if you're curious about the culture of gaming, or want to better understand the psychology of fandom while experiencing the ups and downs through the eyes of a thoughtful, hardcore-amateur competitor, this is the book for you. (Full disclosure, I am a former colleague of James Hsu, and gave feedback on the concept and a draft copy. Was not compensated in any way for this review, and my thoughts are my own.)

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. you DO NOT need to be a "gamer" or Magic the Gathering player to enjoy this book

By Russ I am not normally one for the "personal journey" type books. This one gripped me immediately however. I will admit, the biggest reason I gave it a chance was because I am also a magic player. Let me be clear, you DO NOT need to be a "gamer" or Magic the Gathering player to enjoy this book. James Hsu struggles balancing his gaming addictions with his real life goals. Something almost all of us can relate to. What I find most interesting, is the inner dialogue you get from him. Aside from wanting to turn pages to see how he fares in the next big tournament, I am turning the pages to find out how he deals with the inner struggles pulling him in every different direction. James Hsu really opens up to the reader about very personal, deep, feelings and emotions normally reserved for only the best of friends. These experiences he shares, makes you feel like he is a friend you haven't kept in touch with. Except you have never met him in your entire life!

I honestly burned through the book in two sittings. For the next 4 days though, I reflected on how similar many of the life lessons were and even went back to a couple chapters. From childhood, to adulthood James Hsu takes you on an amazing journey. Gamer or not, pick this book up and give it a read. Pass it on to your friends and family. You will enjoy it.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A comprehensive and honest account from a new young author

By Lawrence Lit's refreshing to read thru this personal account of a new young author on his journey of competitive gaming. His dedication to various interests throughout his life has been condensed into this rich book that would show you how captivating this game of magic cards is. I personally had not played a game of magic cards at all, only heard about it when i was young. This book has told me more about this game and attracted me to explore more about this game. One aspect of this book that captured my attention is how I was able to relate to a few instances in my own life that i was dedicated to a hobby/sport/game. I went thru ups and downs during which and this book reminded me how enriching such experience can be if you persevere. All in all, a very promising start for James and Im looking forward to further books coming from this young author. Keep it up!

What does it mean to be competitive, and to put all of yourself into a competitive activity? I have played Magic: The Gathering for twenty years. I have traveled around the world to play all over North America, Europe, and China. I have had lots of fun, and made incredible friends, along the way. But I have also experienced feelings of anguish, frustrations, and self-doubt. Many years later, I have come to be at peace with myself. I have developed a framework for controlling my emotions in the heat of competition. I wrote my story so that it can be shared with you. Playing Magic is not a requirement for enjoying this book. Struggle is universal, and can apply to any activity you are passionate about. I welcome you to take the journey with me, and learn more about yourself in the process.

Praise for Magic: The Addiction Reading this book took me back through my own journey as a Magic player. The experiences detailed here spoke to me and I finished the book in a single reading. I would recommend this book to Magic players and non-Magic players alike, as the author paints a compelling picture regardless of your familiarity with the source material. It's a tale of just how fully this game can grab you, and what that can lead to from the positives of building relationships and finding a challenging mental pursuit to the dark side of obsession.

Luis Scott-Vargas, Professional Magic Player, Hall of Famer and 7-time Pro Tour Top 8 Finalist More than any author before him, James perfectly captures the very essence of what it means to suffer from the competitive drive. His brutally honest and highly entertaining reflections on two decades of worldwide gaming have been an eye-opening journey of discovery for me.

Julian Knab, Magic Player and 2013 Bazaar of Moxen Paris Winner James tells a clear and captivating story that resonated a lot with me given my upbringing as an Asian-American Magic player.

Jarvis Yu, Magic Player, 2015 Grand Prix Seattle Winner and 9-time Pro Tour Qualifier James's take on what drives Magic players to compete is vital and fresh in a media climate that either takes it for granted or portrays it as completely insane.

Chris Morris-Lent, Author, A Brief History of Magic Cards

About the Author James Hsu is a life-long gaming enthusiast and technophile. He currently lives in Beijing.