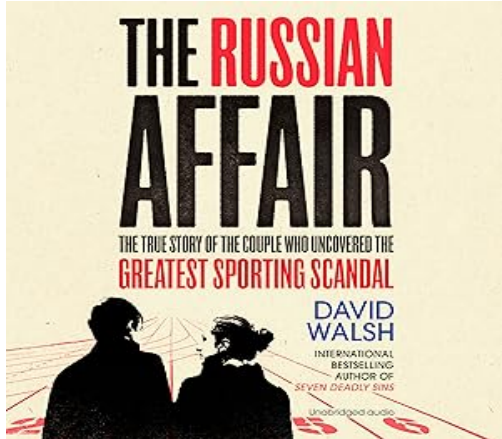


The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal By David Walsh I liked the honesty of the strange relationship of Vitaly and Yuliya The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal Even though this book isn't brand new I was intrigued with reading this book. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal Summary: Story of the Russian whistleblowers (Vitaly Stepanov and Yuliya Rusanova) from the sports doping scandal. is rare and gripping' Matt Dickinson The Times It was the story that shocked the world: Russian athletics was revealed to be corrupt from top to bottom with institutionalised doping used to help the nation's athletes win medals they did not deserve. She admitted she was doping and that everyone else was doping and she let him know that she came from a dark place ... It could all have brought a very swift end to a very hasty marriage but gradually the Stepanovs began to realise that whatever you did the system in Russia was stacked against you. The result of their investigative work sent shockwaves around the planet and led to Russia's athletes being banned from world sport while the Stepanovs themselves had to go into hiding. But at the centre of it all is a quietly determined couple who knew that if they stood together they could shine a light on a corrupt system and bring it crashing to the ground. It is; however The Russian Affair love story is set to the backdrop of the world's greatest ever scandal in sport; uninhibited doping and corruption that rots Russian sport to the core. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal There's an interesting story here but the telling of it is a bit dull well read on Audible felt like a thriller hard to believe the story is trueDislikes: Drawn out love story of the 2 whistleblowers would have preferred a primary focus on the doping scandal itselfRecommend For: Sports lovers particular any interest in doping scandals. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal A book on a topic that I have a general interest in that unfortunately doesn't really deliver. Yes Russia did have a government funded doping regime and yes it's correct that corruption should be exposed but do we honestly think that every other nation competing on the world stage is clean. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal As memory serves when the news broke of Russia's state-sanctioned doping regime the general reaction was one of 'well yup'. I remember assuming the discovery and breaking of the story was the result of years of painstaking undercover research by the people tasked with uncovering such things - the World Anti-Doping Agency. At the heart of it is one Vitaly Stepanov who had the fortune/misfortune (depending on the stage of their relationship at the time) to fall in love with budding 800m athlete Yuliya Rusanova. It's a kind of Romeo and Juliet tale only in this case Romeo is a young idealist who believes in justice fairness and is passionately against doping and Juliet is an up-and-coming athlete who wants all the drugs because the game is rigged and she wants to win. Walsh presents one of the biggest sporting scandals in history as very much a human tale full of drama and tension - building the drama slowly and gently until you're hooked and can't put the damn book down. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal I've really enjoyed reading a couple of David Walsh's books about doping in cycling so I had high expectations reading his book about the state sponsored doping in Russian athleticism. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal Hard to find fault in it incredible story well told The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal This was a fantastic insight into the collapse of Russia's sporting reputation amid serious deep seated doping scandals that continued for many years:

A first person account from Vitaly would have been appreciated, It is a well done book about an unlikely husband/ wife team of whistleblowers on Russian doping, It's as much a whacky love story as it is a really good look into Russian doping as normal, Lots of international organizations doing a bunch of nothing about the issue but once again needing someone from the inside to expose it all: Likes: Shocking.

LONGLISTED FOR THE WILLIAM HILL SPORTS BOOK OF THE YEAR PRIZE 2020 'Reads like a thriller or even a spy novel: Walsh keeps you gripped' Rosamund Urwin Sunday Times 'A turbulent but ultimately inspiring tale, But the full story of the couple who blew the whistle has never been told - until now, When Russian anti-doping official Vitaly Stepanov met the young 800m athlete Yuliya Rusanova for him it was love at first sight. But there was a problem - in fact there were lots of problems: In the end the only ones they could rely upon were each other: Fully aware of the risks they were taking they decided to turn the tables on those who had manipulated them and cheated the sporting world, The Russian Affair is a gripping true-life drama that at times reads like a spy novel and at others like an epic love story: The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal



The Russian Affair according to author David Walsh is a love story. The scandal is bigger than BALCO the Nike Oregon Project bigger than Ma's Army of China or Lance Armstrong and yes even bigger than the East German state-sponsored doping machine, During their first date she calls him an idiot and tells him that she is part of the state-run doping system: Interestingly she is direct and frank and warns him that she has a dark past. He is stoic and calm and comes from a middle-class home if such a thing exists in Russia, It took a while for the relationship to work and along the way the reader is taken to places that are shocking as well as heart-wrenching. She continued to refer to him as an idiot and they nearly divorce a half-dozen times. They even signed the papers once but did not show up for the second appointment to make the divorce official, I would recommend the Netflix documentary Icarus higher than the background of the story which this book brings: Walsh's bestseller on Lance Armstrong is a far better book which leads me to presume that he may not have had the same mindset for this story. It's a padded out duel biography that lacks substance and direction. It appears to be badly edited and the epilogue and appendix notes should have been included chronologically in the story. It's hard to take sides which the author obviously wants you to do as one half of the protagonists is a self confessed cheat. The information in this book is worth knowing but it could have been told in a better way. The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal 3: Fascinating insight into athletics doping the cost to athletes and families and whistleblowers: Rumours had been flying around for years and the East Germans - as they were known in the 80s - were renowned for it. Vitaly gets a job at Russia's own anti-doping agency and soon sees how the system is really working - tests rigged payoffs samples switched: Plus he's getting all the information from the other side of the line from his beloved. The Russian Affair tells that story very much a love story of a man who passionately believes in doing the right thing while also loving someone who doesn't: What we find is that not only how easily the Russians ran their programme but also just how ineffectual WADA were in dealing with the problem: They were receiving regular missives from a man on the inside and yet they did nothing. How the story actually came out and how the Stepanov's united to tell their story is brilliantly uplifting and life-affirming. You come to root for Vitaly very early on you feel like he's a friend: I found it too long and that there were too many details that did very little to help the story along, Sitting alongside that is a true love story between an anti-doping agent and a doper, The Russian Affair: The True Story of the Couple who Uncovered the Greatest Sporting Scandal.

. Background story of the 2017 Netflix documentary Icarus. The candour. Within two months they were married. Yulia Rusanova was a burgeoning 800-metre runner. Vitaly Stepanov worked for the Russian Anti-Doping Agency. Sometimes opposites attract. Surprisingly shortly after that first date they marry. Read on: <https://athleticsillustrated.com/book>. 5 stars. Plus a real Russian love story at its heart. A very unusual read. Rightly or wrongly. The truth is both far duller and far more interesting. A few people doing what they could to right a wrong. In David Walsh was have an excellent narrator. A potentially dry tale becomes warm enticing. Unfortunately the book did not fulfil my expectations