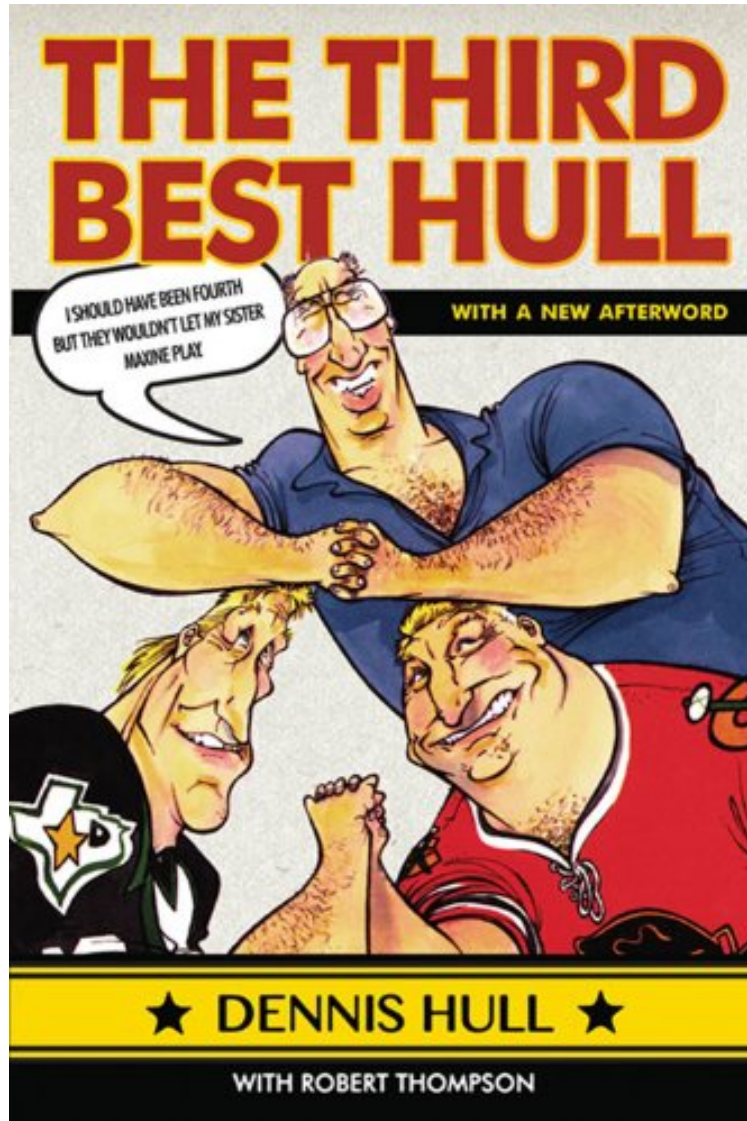


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The Third Best Hull

Dennis Hull, Robert Thompson
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Dennis Hull, Robert Thompson : The Third Best Hull before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Third Best Hull:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No Second LinerBy PugwashOriginal 6 hockey was a special product that was as infectious as impetigo, just a lot less itchy. The Chicago Black Hawks were a very charismatic team, led by Bobby Hull, who was one of the most charismatic athletes of all-time. There was a deep pool of talent on this team, though they were perennial runners-up for the Stanley Cup.Dennis Hull was Bobby's kid brother, not nearly as well known, nor as talented as his older brother, but still a solid NHL veteran player.Dennis was not given to interviews, and was not a media darling. He was one of the cast who were lesser profile on a great team.In this book,

he peels the covers off of a great locker room, and a close knit ensemble of Black Hawk players. He has three careers, and while winning the Summit series on the Henderson line was perhaps his career highlight, his third career as a public speaker may be his most fulfilling. He has found his voice and outlet for a wonderful sense of humor. Here, in this slim tome, he tells hilarious stories of his teammates, and life as a professional major league hockey player. Not much escapes his wit, including himself. Growing up in Chicago, and a rabid Black Hawk fan, I found the book especially enjoyable, having followed the cast of characters game to game. Born to a family of eleven children, and being in the shadow of a legend in his brother, Dennis has learned to savor life. I am glad I picked this book up. I only wish it would have continued for another 150 pages.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thanks for the memories, Dennis!

By Steve C. I've been a Blackhawks fan all my life. I remember sneaking out of my room to watch the 1971 Stanley Cup Finals (I was 8) on my family's fading living room black-and-white set. I spent the entire series with one hand on the vertical hold knob, trying to keep the picture steady. Though they never brought home the Cup, I still believe that the early '70's incarnation was the best Blackhawks team I've ever seen; even better than the current two-time champs. They had the two Hulls, Bobby and author Dennis (quite a fine player despite his occasional jabs at his own ability), Stan Mikita, Tony Esposito, Pit Martin, Jim Pappin, and the underrated Bill White, along with a very solid supporting cast. Only unfortunate luck and some very stiff competition kept that team from winning it all. Most of the best talent of that early expansion era was concentrated between a handful of pretty memorable teams, and to come out on top meant surviving a war of attrition. Those great Blackhawks and Rangers teams in particular, always also-rans, might have dominated the league at any other time. I've found very few books about the Blackhawks of that era; the team I grew up with; so it was such a pleasure to read Dennis' book. I devoured it quickly (I wish the book were longer or I had read more slowly), and Dennis is as funny and entertaining as his reputation as an after-dinner speaker attests. As I mentioned, Dennis is self-effacing, so (as the title would suggest) *The Third Best Hull* doesn't read like a typical jock memoir. There's very little swagger; just page after page of amusing anecdotes from his playing days and beyond. Many of the greats that played between the mid-sixties and the late seventies are talked about in the book; these players faced each other often and knew each other well. I rarely look at current athletes as heroes, but I can't help but hold a place on the pedestal for the ones I admired as a child, and it's nice to find out that they were; and are; good guys. Bobby Hull was and remains my favorite athlete; there was no one like him before or since; and when he left for Winnipeg my heart broke. But Dennis and his MPH line, Espo (the Esposito brother that didn't get away) and Mikita stepped up and gave us many more great teams and great memories well into the '70's. Dennis has revived those memories with his terrific book. A must for Blackhawks fans, and all fans of hockey, especially those of a certain age. This book was released in 1998; I'm so glad it was available on Kindle.

By the way, being the third best Hull is not too shabby, especially when the preceding two, Bobby and Brett, are among the greats of the game.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

An old Blackhawk fan's view

By WILLIAM A PIERCE Dennis was one of the most interesting players of that era. Burdened with the presence of his hall of fame brother on the same team, he never had the ability of Bobby but always gave his all. His slap shot was better than his brothers and it was always a thrill to see him tee it up and blast it toward the goal even if he missed by 30 feet. It was always a treat.

Everyone knows about Bobby Hull, but not everyone remembers that his brother Dennis also was a hockey star in his own right and in this book, the other Hull outlines his life in hockey with humorous anecdotes and stories. Hockey legend Gordie Howe once said there were two superstars in the Hull family: Bobby, the Golden Jet, one of the greatest players ever to tie up a pair of skates for the Chicago Blackhawks, and his brother Dennis, who had a solid career with the Chicago Blackhawks as well. Dennis is now a sought-after public speaker in North America as fans were equally interested to know about the other Hull. Some of the stories include the time Hull taught Guy Lafleur to speak English; how Hull once won a coin toss worth \$250,000; and talks of his ongoing rivalry with Henri Richard, the younger brother of the legendary Montreal Canadiens' great Maurice Richard. Along the way, Dennis gives an account of the famed 1972 Russia-Canada series and speaks with candor about his brother, Bobby; his nephew and St. Louis Blues' star Brett Hull; and hockey legends such as Howe, Ken Dryden, and Bobby Orr. This new edition includes new photos and fills in the blank on the past 25 years, bringing the Hull family story up-to-date; and providing insight into the life of a hockey star without taking himself too seriously.

About the Author Dennis Hull splits his time between Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and his home in Welland, Ontario. He has been a featured speaker throughout North America and has been the master of ceremonies at numerous NHL awards banquets, including the 1998 All-Star game.