



# Cycle of Lies: The Fall of Lance Armstrong

By Juliet Macur

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## Cycle of Lies: The Fall of Lance Armstrong By Juliet Macur

The definitive account of Lance Armstrong's spectacular rise and fall.

In June 2013, when Lance Armstrong fled his palatial home in Texas, downsizing in the face of multimillion-dollar lawsuits, Juliet Macur was there—talking to his girlfriend and children and listening to Armstrong's version of the truth. She was one of the few media members aside from Oprah Winfrey to be granted extended one-on-one access to the most famous pariah in sports.

At the center of *Cycle of Lies* is Armstrong himself, revealed through face-to-face interviews.

But this unfolding narrative is given depth and breadth by the firsthand accounts of more than one hundred witnesses, including family members whom Armstrong had long since turned his back on—the adoptive father who gave him the Armstrong name, a grandmother, an aunt. Perhaps most damning of all is the taped testimony of the late J.T. Neal, the most influential of Armstrong's many father figures, recorded in the final years of Neal's life as he lost his battle with cancer just as Armstrong gained fame for surviving the disease.

In the end, it was Armstrong's former friends, those who had once occupied the precious space of his inner circle, who betrayed him. They were the ones who dealt Armstrong his fatal blow by breaking the code of silence that shielded the public from the grim truth about the sport of cycling—and the grim truth about its golden boy, Armstrong.

Threading together the vivid and disparate voices of those with intimate knowledge of the private and public Armstrong, Macur weaves a comprehensive and unforgettably rich tapestry of one man's astonishing rise to global fame and fortune and his devastating fall from grace.



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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“In *Cycle of Lies*, Juliet Macur sets out to untangle Armstrong’s lifetime of dishonesty...[and] finds some ghoulish new skeletons.” (***The Guardian (UK)***)

“A riveting account of the Armstrong implosion...a tale right out of ancient Greece.” (***Toronto Star (Canada)***)

“A compelling account...*Cycle of Lies* is a scrupulously reported and sourced book... a search for an understanding of the man behind the myth.” (***New York Times***)

#### From the Back Cover

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Macur gives the unfolding narrative of Armstrong's life depth and breadth with the firsthand accounts of more than one hundred witnesses, including family members whom Armstrong had long since turned his back on. Perhaps most damning of all is taped testimony of the late J. T. Neal, the most influential of Armstrong's many father figures, recorded in the final years of Neal's life as he lost his battle with cancer just as Armstrong gained fame for surviving the disease.

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#### About the Author

Juliet Macur is an award-winning reporter at the *New York Times*, whose work has been anthologized in *Best American Sports Writing*. This is her first book.

### Users Review

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##### Rebecca Wheeler:

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