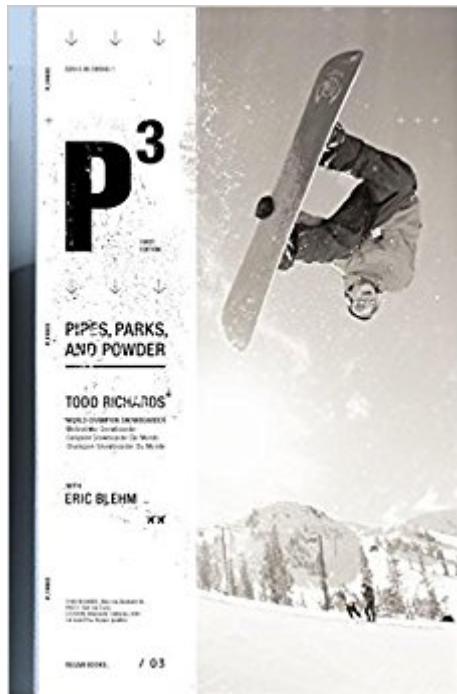


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# P3: Pipes, Parks, And Powder



## Synopsis

One of the most charismatic, popular and talented snowboarders in the world, Todd Richards, tells the story of his life as a skateboarder—turned—world-class snowboarder, and of the sport that in less than 10 years has gone from underground to the forefront of the Olympics. In the late 1980s, snowboarders were seen by skiers as skateboarders—punks and 'knuckle-druggers' but in just a few years the sport rapidly gained popularity in ski areas and resorts. By 1994 snowboarding was an exhibition sport at the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer; since then it has become one of the most popular sports in the Olympics. Todd Richards was there through it all and, as he tells his story, he shares the history of his sport. Todd Richards is one of the biggest names in pro snowboarding. Now his image is on PlayStation games, plastic toys and countless magazines. He's won world championships and X Games medals. Known for his wit, work ethic, and front side 900, Todd has helped bring snowboarding out of obscurity and into the limelight. The sport continues to gain momentum through growing media coverage, and no professional embodies the image and attitude of snowboarding better than Todd Richards.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: HarperEntertainment; 1 edition (November 25, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060560401

ISBN-13: 978-0060560409

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,378,823 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Snowboarding #2148 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Winter Sports #3297 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hiking & Camping > Instructional

## Customer Reviews

Richards is a world-class snowboarder, one of the sport's superstars, an Olympic contender, inspiration for a video game, and subject of numerous magazine articles. This is his autobiography, written (with coauthor Blehm) for readers familiar with the sport and its lingo (the uninitiated might find the whole thing a little perplexing). It's the story of a young man who comes to a sport in its

infancy, who grows up as the sport is catapulted onto the world stage, and who, in fact, helps turn it from a pastime into a sport. If it were just about Richards, the book would seem drastically thin and rather self-absorbed. But, because it also chronicles the growth of snowboarding from skiing alternative to Olympic event, it has value for those interested in the history of winter sports. Ignore the book's oft-tedious then-I-did structure and concentrate on the bigger story of how a new sport graduates to the mainstream. A niche book, certainly, but just the thing for snowboarding fans.

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Todd Richards continues to compete in and win the world's most prestigious snowboarding competitions and is currently producing his second trick-tips video. He makes frequent television appearances but is avoiding a commentator job for as long as possible -- at least until he lands a major role in a future Star Wars movie. He lives with his wife and son in Encinitas, California, and Breckenridge, Colorado. Eric Blehm is the award-winning author of the New York Times bestsellers *Fearless* and *The Only Thing Worth Dying For*. His first book, *The Last Season*, was the winner of the National Outdoor Book Award and was named by *Outside* magazine as one of the "greatest adventure biographies ever written." He has dedicated his life to telling the stories of those who serve.

An excellent story to know about the man behind the board

Todd is the man

very pleased with the shipping speed. This was a great condition book for only around \$4.00...Thanks!

This is definitely snowboarding's version of "HAWK Occupation: Skateboarder". Here's an awesome story about a guy who started out like a lot of us, just stoked to skate sketchy ramps with friends...but who transformed himself into the top Snowboard Genius somehow. The tales of his formative years are epic, piss-your-pants funny at times. Then once the career starts taking off, a testament to how working your butt off at something (wiring mind blowing tricks) can bring great things, even to a down-to-earth guy from humble beginnings like the rest of us. It is also very interesting to hear about dealing with the industry side of snowboarding from someone who's been there since almost the beginning. Like David Robinson and the Spurs, this book chronicles how nice

guys can and do finish first sometimes. We can all share the stoke reading about how TR wins tons of contests, finds fulfillment in life, gets the pretty girl, all without selling out and/or becoming a cocky bastard like so many seem to. And the pictures, pure sweetness! They're a top-notch complement to the text throughout and really help tell TR's story. From bravely included photos of the awkward pre-teen and teen years where he was an undersized Star Wars junky with a bad haircut to well-shot professional sequences in the pipe, there are tons of stellar images. One thing that comes to mind after looking over the photos: TR definitely could have made it as a professional skater too, no doubt about it. And the moves he's still pulling on skate and snowboard into his 30's will blow minds. I started reading this book one night where I needed to get to bed early due to an important meeting the next day. Did I get to bed early? Hell no. Stayed up until I'd dusted almost 200 pages! And I could have read it straight through...it is hands-down that good, but the need to be coherent at my a.m. meeting the next day intervened. Bottom line: Buy it now, you'll be glad you did - whether you're a "grown-up", a stoked kid, a surfer/skater/or snowboarder, armchair X-Gamer...whatever.

I loved this book.... Every page, every photo and every term I didn't understand! It was a fun read from cover to cover!! These words are coming from a person who, at 51, has never even put on a snowboard, I do ski, have SEEN a halfpipe AND a snowboard park AND I think running with scissors is a pretty brave thing to do! I have always enjoyed reading about people who are willing to go-for-it, risk it all to become who they want to be, to be so focused on something that time pretty well stands still in their minds. Todd set his goals way high and went from the kid who didn't want his Star Wars Action Figures to get dirty, to a WORLD CHAMPION SNOWBOARDER, all the while dealing with the demons and doubts swirling around in his head. Todd tells his story well, he doesn't sugar coat the life of a pro boarder. There are lots of perks AND many many nights lived out of a duffle bag. It may be a free duffle bag with a logo on it, a free hotel room and some incredibly fresh pow that no one has touched, but it still ain't home with Lindsy and Cam, it is still, in many ways a job. Mind you, it can be a FUN job, it pays well AND, as he discovered first hand last year, a dangerous job. Not only is Todd an incredible athlete, he is first and foremost an incredible person, a great daddy, husband and friend, none of this fame and fortune has gone to his head. He is still falling asleep most nights plotting and planning his next big move. So, whether you are a snowboarder, or a wannabe anything or a parent of a kid who does not seem to have a passion, or a person who likes to read about triumph... Do yourself a favor and read this book. Me? I got to run outside and do a frontside grab.... does it count with scissors? PS. I forgot to say, this is a funny book, LAUGH-OUT-LOUD funny. Well done TR!!!

I'm still reading the book, but it's amazing, I've read 3/4 of it last night, had to force myself to put the book down and go to sleep. I read another book the night before from this pro girl snowboarder and I thought it was eh... just whatever very kiddy like... but after a few pages of PPP, I started getting really into it. Todd Richards, tells a story well and he's just so honest about it all that you can't help but like the guy a whole lot while you're reading his book. I'm thoroughly impressed-just got into boarding and it's funny, my bf thinks I'm obsessed with it, but looks like Todd Richards was too. That's awesome. Anyway, the book is a great read buy it. It's a lot more than just about riding, it's about his life through it all.

she says it is very beautiful , good memory. good. Amazing customer service and a great product. 5 star.

For anyone interested in snowboarding, P3 is a great read. It was even better for me, serving as a reminder to how much has happened to our sport in a short span, and bringing me back to the days I spent in Colorado - often at the same events/locations as Todd Richards. I found myself digging up old journals and reliving years of P/P/P in Breckenridge. Todd Richards is in the unique situation of having been involved in every generation of snowboarding so far, and at the forefront of most of these. So I can't think of anyone in a better position than him to put together a book like this. And compliments to author Eric Blehm for making the pieces come together so well, a task that no doubt would've been bigger than the result would imply. Cheers!

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