

PRESS RELEASE

A Sunday Kind of Love

by David Benjamin

With a little romance and a wedge of cheese, novelist David Benjamin explores the inner turmoil of the football fanatic

Not since Frederick Exley's dark and introspective *A Fan's Notes* in 1968, has a serious novel explored the inner turmoil of the American football fan.

David Benjamin has ended that literary drought with his forthcoming novel, *A Sunday Kind of Love*, but with a lighter touch and a larger cast of characters. Described as a "football romance," *A Sunday Kind of Love* will be released by Event Horizon Press this spring.

In a significant break from the tradition of American sports-themed fiction, Benjamin's protagonist is neither athlete nor even a guy. She is Trish Truschka, a lifelong wallflower who, as the story begins, has no interest in sports, nor is she even aware of the raging passion, all around her in Wisconsin, for the Green Bay Packers.

It is only through the Packermania of her "secret love," Allen Andrews, that Trish not only discovers football, but eventually mortgages her future to acquire the Holy Grail of every Wisconsin native from Superior to Beloit — season tickets to Lambeau Field, the greatest shrine of the National Football League.

While she's not really looking, the big, warm family of Packer fans seduces Trish out of her lifelong shell. The Packers draw her into a previously unknown community of barroom philosophers, tailgate therapists, football poets, surrogate moms and madcap cheeseheads. As the tumultuous 2009 Packers season unfolds, Trish finds herself swept into an adventure that leaves her, by the time the playoffs arrive, enervated, exhilarated and romantically confused, but poised on the brink of becoming a whole new Trish.

While Trish is slowly awakening to a new world of friends and possibilities, Allen Andrews embodies the pathology of the fan and the tortuous week-to-week rollercoaster of the NFL season. Allen is further tortured by his cruelly divided love — not between his wife, Priscilla, and Trish, but between the Packers' legendary expatriate, Brett Favre (now of the hated Minnesota Vikings) and the team's rising star, Aaron Rodgers.

Once she has her seats in Section 115, Trish has no trouble luring Allen away from wife and family. But will she ever be able to win him away from Brett?

Author David Benjamin has been a Packer fan since Vince Lombardi's first championship season in 1962. He understands, personally that the mad,

intoxicating infatuation that a man can feel for a woman (at least for a while) is similar to — but less durable than — the manly passion he feels for a truly great, once-in-a-lifetime NFL quarterback.

A Sunday Kind of Love is the rare novel that captures the addictive madness of the sports fan. But this is a story better suited to the non-fan, the non-football reader, because it provides, after all, more romance than football. In *A Sunday Kind of Love*, David Benjamin has created an entertaining education into sports-bred lunacy — with an ending to satisfy the romantic in all of us.

Benjamin is also author of the recently released novel, *Three's a Crowd* (Event Horizon Press, 2013), described by Silicon Valley journalist Tekla Nee as a “rollicking mystery [that] nails the absurdities of CES, Las Vegas, Paris, and — oh yeah! — marriage.”

Benjamin’s memoir, *The Life and Times of the Last Kid Picked* was honored as a notable book by the Wisconsin Library Association and described by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* as “richly hilarious... [Benjamin] retains a little boy’s flair for spinning epics from anecdotes, and he applies to it an adult’s taste for irony. Don’t read this at bedtime — your laughter might wake up the kids.”

Among Benjamin’s other books is *SUMO: A Thinking Fan’s Guide to Japan’s National Sport*, a product of his residence in Tokyo for more than seven years. Originally published in 1990 and revised in 2010, *SUMO* is the bestselling book ever written about sumo and one of the funniest books written about any sport.

For more information on, or for contact with the author, please call or write:

David Benjamin
(608) 467-2806
thelastkidpicked@gmail.com