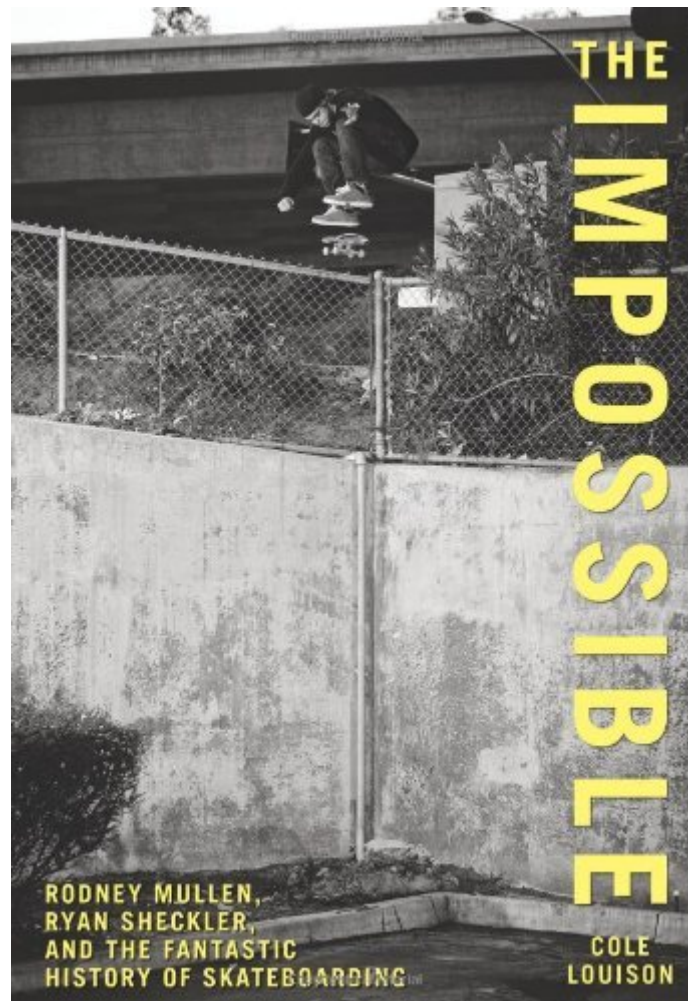


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# The Impossible: Rodney Mullen, Ryan Sheckler, And The Fantastic History Of Skateboarding



## Synopsis

The Impossible aims to get skateboarding right. Journalist Cole Louison gets inside the history, culture, and major personalities of skating.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I really, really enjoyed Cole Louison's THE IMPOSSIBLE--it made the perfect companion piece to my post- and pre-workday skate sessions. With direct access to Mullen himself and many others, Louison writes evocatively on the early days of Rodney Mullen's career and his family life. These chapters really jumped off the page for me--I started skating in about 1999, yet didn't know any of this, despite the fact that Rodney vs. Daewon Round 2 was my first ever skate video and Mullen was my favorite skater for years. It's amazing to think of someone that talented growing up in such an adversarial environment and being able to revolutionize his passion the way Mullen did. The section on suicide and depression stuck me probably the hardest. To accomplish everything Mullen has, and not be proud, grateful, and exuberant every waking moment? In a just world, it would be a beggar belief--but that's human nature for you. The stuff about The Industry is also enlightening--I'd suspected for a long time that the magazines are wholly funded by sponsors, but it's alarming to

learn how much can be traced back the investments of just a few people. (Still true, though, with the corporate buyouts of recent years?) There's something especially gut-wrenching about the idea of Steve Rocco playing golf on some Pacific Island, so far removed from the hobby off of which he made his millions...I did notice a few factual errors that probably resulted from not having a quality copyeditor--Leo Romero is not being the first person to grind up a handrail (Jeremy Wray did that first in the late 90s), Pat Duffy not belonging in the same category of young Plan B super-athletes but being an OG pro who had the opening part in their first video as one of the original handrail skaters, etc.

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