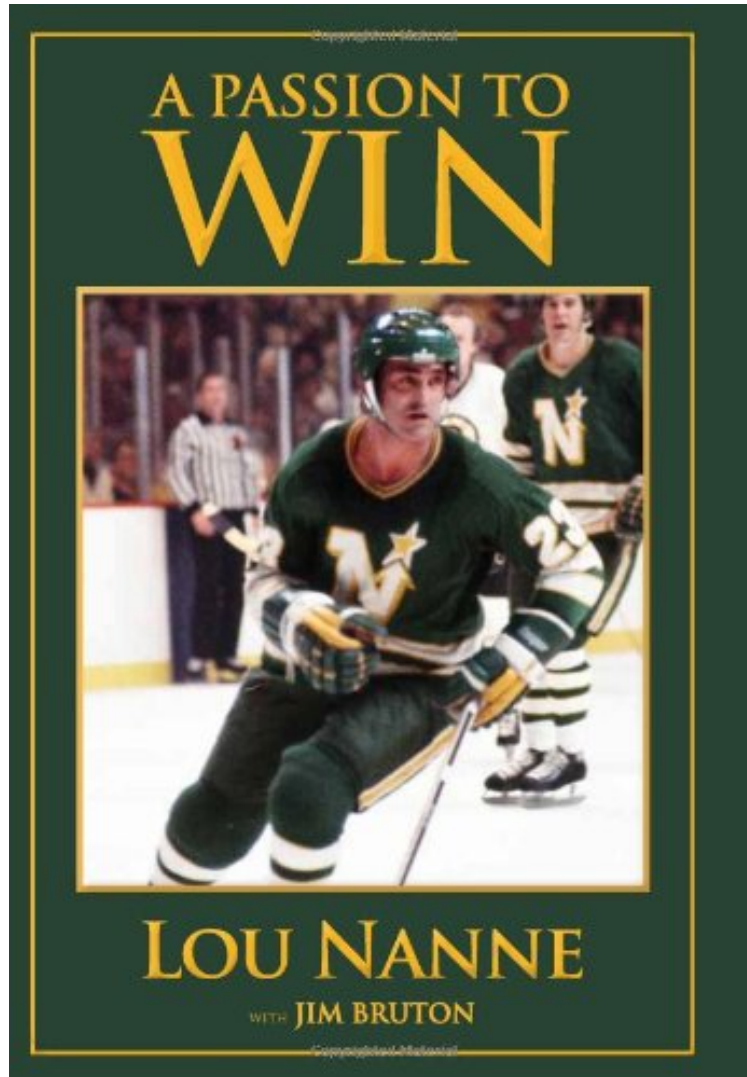


(Download pdf ebook) A Passion to Win

## A Passion to Win

*Lou Nanne, Jim Bruton*

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**Lou Nanne, Jim Bruton : A Passion to Win** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Passion to Win:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Bringing the genre of sports books to a new lowBy JDCGenerally, I don't expect great literature when reading the written works of ex-jocks. However, Mr. Nanne's book has brought the genre to a new low.As a huge fan of the North Stars (as well as the Vikings and Twins) during my youth (in the early '70's), I was anxious to read this book, as very little is in print concerning Minnesota hockey during that timeframe. Having now read "A Passion To Win", I know nothing more than I had previously about the North Stars from 1967-1978. Nanne spends an inordinate amount of time discussing the street hockey games he played while growing up in

Sault Ste. Marie and his years playing hockey in college. But when one finally gets to the fourth chapter, titled "The Minnesota North Stars", he skips COMPLETELY over his playing years, right to his administrative positions with the team. There is no insight in either this chapter, or any of the others about his years with Bill Goldsworthy, J.P. Parise, Gump Worsley, or any of the other North Stars of his era. He rattles off a few names here and there, but that is about it. Much of the book is Nanne telling us names of people he knew, and what he thinks about them (always flattering). Then, he even wastes an entire chapter telling us all about his venture into sales and finance. If I'd wanted to read about that, I would have picked up a book from another mindless genre, that of advice on the world of business. And, please, just how many times do we need to hear about his listening to Foster Hewitt on the radio when he was a child? The only thing I really learned from this book that I didn't know already was just how childish and disturbed Mr. Nanne is. By his own admission, he can't even play a friendly game of volleyball with his family, as he would "have to win and would slam a ball in someone's face". He still holds onto losses from his childhood (after 50+ years?). He is proud of having broken Russian law and smuggled a religious relic out of the country. He laughs at having convinced his "friend", Minnesota Viking defensive end Bob Lurtsema, to undergo painful and unnecessary surgery. And he prohibited another "friend" from going to the bathroom while they were watching a game on TV, as he was afraid it would jinx his team. His OCD is rampant, yet he refuses to take medication which is proven to help with the disorder. All of it, he shrugs off by saying that "that's just who I am". It's really hard to believe that someone like this was able to rise to the level of GM and President of a professional sports franchise, or, as he claims, to succeed in the business world. Aside from the content, the writing is also in dire need of help. Typos are found throughout the book, both in spelling ("United Sates"?) and in sentences that don't make sense (either missing words or containing superfluous ones). Additionally, he evidently believes that his readers need to be "guarded" from obscenities, with such insane censoring as "'Don't worry about those North Stars merging with Cleveland. When you take one bag of ---- and merge it with another bag of ----, all you get is one bigger bag of ----.'" Really? Does he think we are both so stupid we can't figure out the words and so fragile that they have to be censored out from a book supposedly aimed at adult readers? Regardless of your nostalgia for the North Stars, do yourself a favor and skip over this worthless volume. You can garner far more information by simply reading Wikipedia entries on the team.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lou Nanne is a legend  
By ZridlonZridlon It was interesting to read just how much of an impact Lou Nanne has had on the game of hockey. At times the text was dry, and left me wanting more hockey stories. But; Nanne is a legend and his story is worth being told and read by all hockey fans.  
0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By Customer Very good very fast. Should be a good book. Thank you.

They call him Sweet Lou from the Soo and Lou Nanne is the biggest name in Minnesota hockey. A draftee of the first Minnesota North Stars team, he played in 635 NHL regular season games for the team; was the only defenseman to lead the Western Collegiate Hockey Association in scoring; and was the captain of the University of Minnesota's Gophers and the 1968 U.S. Olympic team. Lou Nanne has done it all, and now for the first time shares his great memories, accomplishments, passions, and struggles in his autobiography, *A Passion to Win*. Rising through the ranks of the Minnesota North Stars as player and then as a coach, general manager, and president, Nanne proved that his hockey talent was in both mind and body. In all, he spent over two decades with the North Stars organization, building the team up to be a legitimate playoff contender. After hockey, he turned his business acumen and intense drive to win to the world of finance. In these pages, he shares his foolproof tips for career success in any vocation. Nanne speaks frankly about his life's joys as well as its sorrows, including his most harrowing struggle: the disease that nearly overcame him and resulted in his departure from hockey. He shares amusing and memorable anecdotes from his lifelong relationships with hockey icons Phil Esposito, Gordie Howe, Bobby Orr, Wayne Gretzky, Herb Brooks, John Mariucci, and many of the greatest names in hockey. He also recounts the memorable moments from his 45 years behind the microphone at the Minnesota State High School League's annual championship tournament. *A Passion to Win* is an indispensable story of an incredible life, a tale of triumph over incredible obstacles, and the power of love for family, friends, and the game.

About the Author Lou Nanne