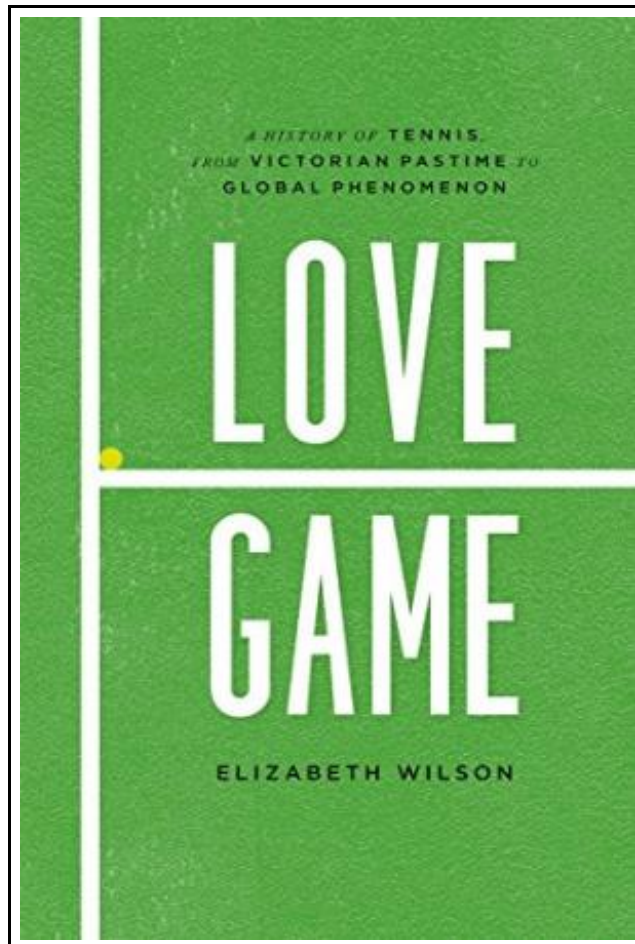


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University of Chicago Press, United States, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 218 x 145 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Tennis has never been played better than it is today. To watch Rafael Nadal spin a forehand at 4000 rpm, Maria Sharapova arabesque out of a serve, Serena Williams utterly destroy a short ball, or Roger Federer touch a volley into an impossibly angled winner is to watch not only the best players with the best coaching hitting with the best racquets, it is to watch the culmination of an entire history. Love Game is different from most tennis books it isn't a ghostwritten biography, and it won't teach you how to slice your serve. It's a book about tennis's grand culture, one that unveils the sport's long history as it lives and breathes (or grunts) in the modern game. No one is better equipped to tell this story than novelist and historian Elizabeth Wilson. With a penchant for tennis's inherent drama, she finds its core: a psychological face off between flamboyant personalities navigating the ebbs and flows of fortune in the confines of a 78 x 36 foot box whether of clay, grass, or DecoTurf. Walking the finely kempt lawns of Victorian England, she shows how tennis's early role as a social pastime that included both men and women and thus, lots of sexual tension set it apart from most other sports and their dominant masculine appeal. Even today, when power and endurance are more important than ever, tennis still demands that the body behave gracefully and with finesse. In this way, Wilson shows, tennis has retained the vibrant spectacle of human drama and beauty that have always made it special, not just to sports fans but to popular culture. Telling...

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