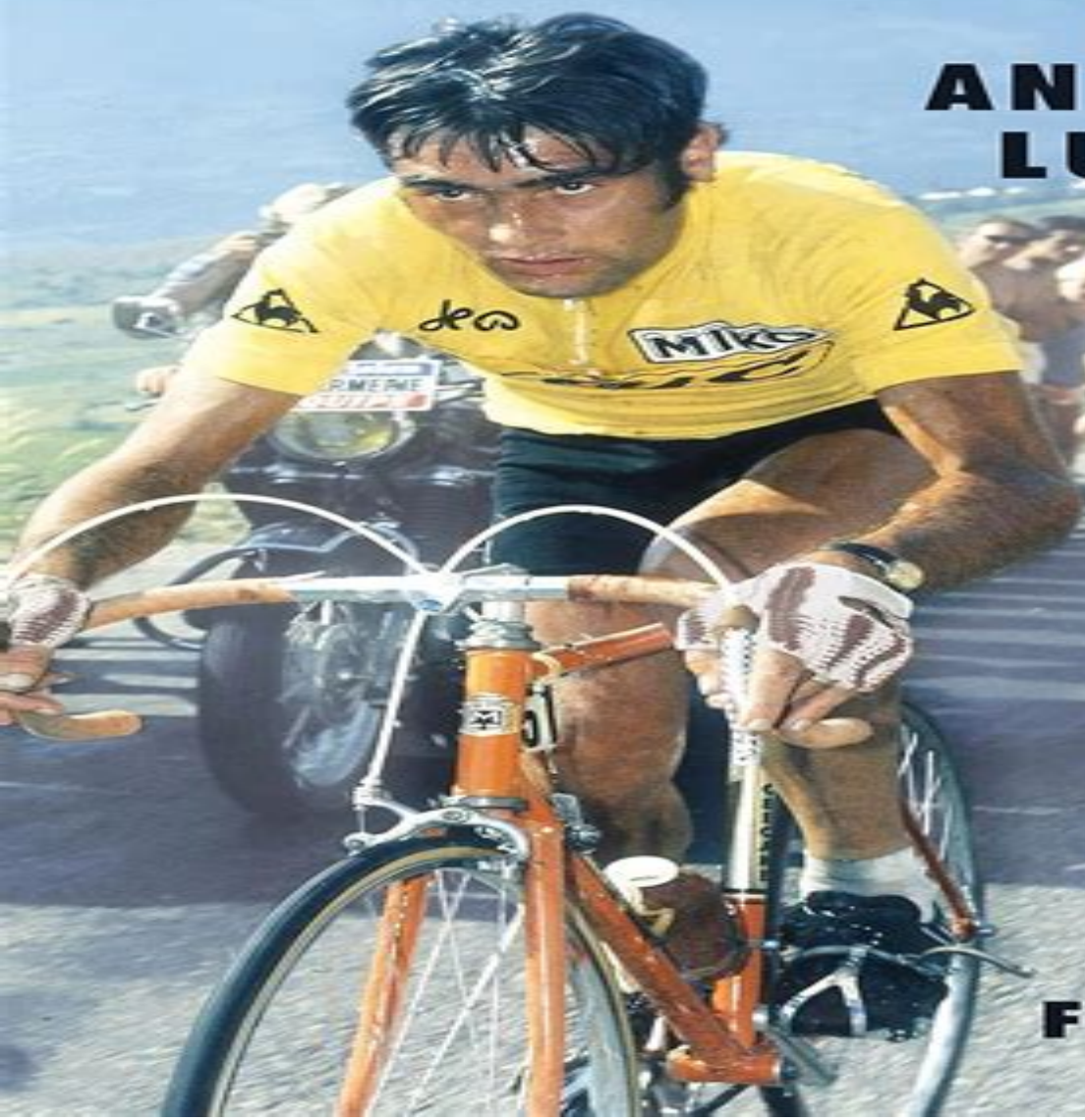


RECKLESS

**THE LIFE
AND TIMES OF
LUIS OCAÑA**



**'My most
dangerous rival'
EDDY MERCKX**

**ALASDAIR
FOTHERINGHAM**

B L O O M S B U R Y

Reckless The Life And Times Of Luis Ocana

Alasdair Fotheringham



Reckless The Life And Times Of Luis Ocana:

Reckless Alasdair Fotheringham, 2015-05-21 Luis Ocana seemed doomed to live in the shadow of cycling's greatest ever rider Eddy Merckx. Their rivalry defined Ocana's entire career yet he was the one rider capable of beating the all-conquering Merckx in his prime. After an impoverished upbringing he flourished at the sport he loved and in 1970 secured his biggest victory on home soil winning the Vuelta a España and confirming his status as a Grand Tour challenger. But it was in the 1971 Tour de France that the battle between Merckx and Ocana reached its peak when at the Orcières Merlette stage he inflicted on Merckx the worst defeat he would suffer in a major Tour with an astonishing 120 kilometre solo breakaway through the Alps. But then came one of the most gut wrenching crashes in Tour de France history when Ocana fell heavily on a Pyrenean descent losing his leader's jersey and with it his best chance of destroying Merckx's reputation of invincibility. In the midst of a torrential downpour with minimal visibility rider after rider crashed into the injured rider as he lay prone. The following day Merckx refused to wear the leader's jersey out of respect. It was only when Merckx was missing from the start line in 1973 that Ocana became Spain's second ever Tour de France winner. If Merckx had been present Ocana's chances of success would have been far slimmer. Further triumphs amassed before his swansong in 1976 but Ocana's decline in later life reflects the immense struggle he embraced during the height of his career. An enigmatic outsider to both the Spanish and French throughout his career never truly accepted in either country he died in mysterious circumstances aged just 48. A fascinating complicated character both on and off his bike Ocana's fierce determination, impetuosity and some would say recklessness created some of the most beautiful and gripping episodes in the history of the sport. This is the first ever biography in English of the Spanish Merckx who remains one of the most fascinating Tour de France champions.

Reckless Alasdair Fotheringham, 2014-05-08 This is the first ever biography in English of the Spanish Merckx who remains one of the most fascinating Tour de France champions. Luis Ocana seemed doomed to live in the shadow of cycling's greatest ever rider Eddy Merckx. Their rivalry defined Ocana's entire career yet he was the one rider capable of beating the all-conquering Merckx in his prime. After an impoverished upbringing he flourished at the sport he loved and in 1970 secured his biggest victory on home soil winning the Vuelta a España and confirming his status as a Grand Tour challenger. But it was in the 1971 Tour de France that the battle between Merckx and Ocana reached its peak when at the Orcières Merlette stage he inflicted on Merckx the worst defeat he would suffer in a major Tour with an astonishing 120 kilometre solo breakaway through the Alps. But then came one of the most gut wrenching crashes in Tour de France history when Ocana fell heavily on a Pyrenean descent losing his leader's jersey and with it his best chance of destroying Merckx's reputation of invincibility. In the midst of a torrential downpour with minimal visibility rider after rider crashed into the injured rider as he lay prone. The following day Merckx refused to wear the leader's jersey out of respect. It was only when Merckx was missing from the start line in 1973 that Ocana became Spain's second ever Tour de France winner. If Merckx had

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The End of the Road Alasdair Fotheringham, 2016-05-05 The first detailed account of the Festina affair which ripped apart the 1998 Tour de France and irrevocably changed cycling The Tour de France is always one of the sporting calendar's most spectacular and dramatic events But the 1998 Tour provided drama like no other As the opening stages in Ireland unfolded the Festina team's soigneur Willy Voet was arrested on the French Belgian border with a car load of drugs Raid after police raid followed with arrest after arrest hammering the Tour In protest there were riders strikes and go slows with several squads withdrawing en masse and one expelled By the time the Tour reached Paris just 96 of the 189 starters remained And of those 189 starters more than a quarter were later reported to have doped The 1998 Tour de France's status as one of the most scandal struck sporting events in history was confirmed Voet's arrest was just the beginning of sport's biggest mass doping controversy what became known as the Festina affair It all but destroyed professional cycling as the credibility of the entire sport was called into question and the cycling family began to split apart And yet ironically the 1998 Tour was also one of the best races in years The End of the Road is the first English language book to provide in depth analysis and a colourful evocation of the tumultuous events during the 1998 Tour Alasdair Fotheringham uncovers step by step how the world's biggest bike race sank into a nightmarish series of scandals that left the sport on its knees He explores its long term consequences and what lessons if any were learned

Panic Stations at Ski Stations Conor MacNamara, 2022-02-28 Conor MacNamara rode more than fifty of the greatest climbs in the Tour de France to try and conquer his fear of heights In the end Conor suffered a breakdown and discovered that he suffered from a panic disorder and required treatment This book documents Conor's experiences in detail

El Águila de Toledo Alasdair Fotheringham, 2023-04-20 La biografía de Federico Mart n Bahamontes el primer ciclista español que gan el Tour de Francia Federico Mart n Bahamontes el guila de Toledo es considerado por muchos como el mejor escalador de la historia del ciclismo El primer español en ganar el Tour de Francia y seis veces campeón de la agotadora clasificaci n de la monta a se convirti en un héroe nacional en una España que trataba de recuperarse despu s de la devastaci n y las atrocidades de la Guerra Civil De hecho su xito se debi en gran parte a la guerra Cuando la rebeli n nacionalista del General Franco se alz frente a la Rep blica elegida democr ticamente en 1936 vastas zonas del pa s quedaron empobrecidas y desesperadas Al borde de la inanici n el joven Bahamontes se dedic al ciclismo como un medio para vender productos del mercado negro antes de darse cuenta de que el deporte le ofrec a un futuro m s lucrativo Segui una impresionante carrera amateur que lo

llev a su debut en el Tour en 1954 cuando gan la clasificaci n de la monta a en su primer intento El xito y un estilo de correr carism tico pero temperamental le dieron fama en casa y en el extranjero as como controversia Hoy a pesar de su apropiaci n por el franquismo sigue siendo el padrino del ciclismo espa ol y un exc ntrico deportista con una fuerza de voluntad fenomenal Tambi n es uno de los pocos testigos vivos de la poca dorada del ciclismo y como descubri Alasdair Fotheringham cuando lo entrevist para esta apasionante biograf a est m s que listo para contarlo Legendy světové cyklistiky Michal Hruška, 2024-01-01 Coppi Anquetil Merckx Indurain Pantani a dal co jm no to pojem Tato kniha v s jedine n m zp sobem provede osobn mi i sportovn mi p b hy nejv t ch cyklist od v t z Tour de France a Gira a po osobnosti kter sv m jezdeck m stylem a odvahou zm nily tv cel ho sportu Ka d kapitola p in detailn pohled nejen na jejich kari ry ale tak na z vody kter definovaly historii cyklistiky Poutav vypr v n a obrazov p loha v m dokonale p ibl ivotn i kari rn osudy jednotliv ch legend

If Elected ... Arleen Keylin, Eve Nelson, 1976

Bibliographic Guide to Law, 1987

Indurain Alasdair

Fotheringham, 2021-05 Miguel Indurain is Spain s greatest cyclist of all time and one of the best Tour racers in history He is the only bike rider to have won five successive Tours de France as well as holding the title for the youngest ever race leader in the Tour of Spain This is his story As the all conquering hero of the 90s Indurain steadfastly refused to be overwhelmed by fame remaining humble shy and true to his country roots Along with his inhuman calmness iron will power and superb bike handling skills he was often described as a machine Yet 1996 saw Indurain the Tour s greatest ever champion spectacularly plummet bringing his career and supremacy to an abrupt end In Indurain Alasdair Fotheringham gets to the heart of this enigmatic character reliving his historic accomplishments in vibrant colour and exploring how this shaped the direction taken by generations of Spanish racers raising Spanish sport to a whole new level

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