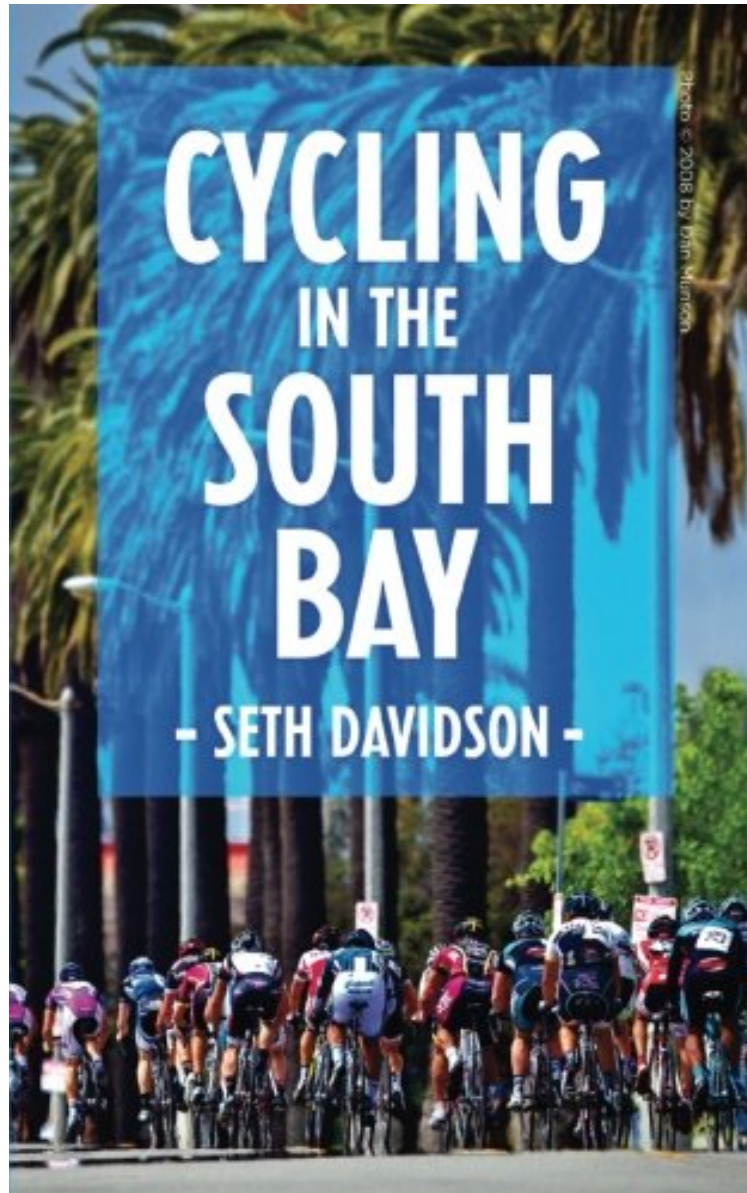


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## Cycling in the South Bay

*Seth Davidson*

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**Seth Davidson : Cycling in the South Bay** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cycling in the South Bay:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. You will not regret reading this book! By stenogrI stumbled across Seth Davidson's blog a few years ago. Somebody on a ride had mentioned it. I just ordered three copies, to start with, for my coffee table, office and bedroom. I am not an avid reader and maybe have ADD or something, because my

concentration cannot stay in place but for a few minutes. I am not easily entertained by writers or any book. Yes, I ride bikes. I am not the avid road rider, as Seth Davidson and most of his friends are. I am not in nearly the athletic category as him or most of the riders in the South Bay. One of the great things about this book is you don't have to ride a bike to enjoy it. At times, I have to look up some of the "slang" or ask someone, because I spend most of my time riding in the dirt. I look forward to his blogs like nothing else. Once you start, it's tough to put anything he writes down, trust me! - Seth will make you laugh and make you cry. His ability to put life into words (riding or not) will keep you entertained and probably get you to join one of the rides. I believe I will get on the Donut train soon, get gobbled up, spit out, and go back for more. I need to get faster for Leadville next year. One of the first blogs I read was about his brother, and we had something in common fast. I have been hooked on reading anything Mr. Davidson writes since then. Again, you don't need to be a roadie for this book. A great gift for any cyclist (in my opinion) and anyone who knows one, which should be everybody, frankly. If you live in MN or MS or Kansas, cycling is cycling and the humor, the collection of friends who will do anything for you, any time, anywhere is not just in the South Bay, albeit a cast of characters there. ;-) - Love this! If you don't ride a bike, you will likely be buying one after reading this book, I guarantee it! If you are not much of a reader (like myself) buy this book and sit down and enjoy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The first part may have been worth it.....By PatGI loved reading Seth's blog. The book started strong but lost momentum in the second half and became less entertaining. The worst part was the Lance 3.0 chapter. The earlier chapter about how Seth met 19-yr. old Lance and helped him with his resume was awesome, it was anecdotal and a part of Seth's personal history. The 3.0 chapter was quite different and didn't even feel as if it was part of the book. Seth lectures about forgiveness and redemption, using Barry Bonds, felons, former prisoners, axe murderers, etc, which I found irrelevant. He asks, "do you want to be the wild-eyed crazy on the street corner screaming, 'He doped, He lied, He cheated'" as if his readers do these things and need to be chastised for our terrible behavior. Asking, "Does it ennoble us to keep shrieking, 'Off with his head!' after his head has been offed" - the whole chapter is presumptive and belittles his readers. He talks about Lance's need to work and feed his family (his net worth in 2012 was \$125 million and much of that is in retirement and trusts which are protected from lawsuits). Seth makes us the bad guys and ends the chapter with, "Keep clubbing him if you want but don't expect me to join in. I'd rather go club some baby seals." Maybe we'd rather do neither, Seth. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. fantastic!!By synesthesia67I love this book!! I am biased, as Seth is my cousin, but probably not as biased as the many people who read his cycling blog, (I never have, but will probably start!), and/or cycle with him regularly!! I loved getting the sense of what it is like bike racing...I don't do it..I mountain bike solitarily...(it's an anti-social pleasure for me)..but it was great to be immersed in that world for a little bit without actually having to put on lycra and ride in the pouring rain!! I haven't gotten to spend much time with Seth in, oh, 30 years or so, but he's still the same guy I used to play monopoly with til the early morning hours as a kid...a mind like a steel trap, and will make you laugh until you can't breathe anymore..like this book did several times..!!The heavy parts hit very heavily for me, as I lost my dad (Seth's uncle) 2 yrs ago, and my cousin (Seth's brother) 1 year ago...so I am sharing a bit of the white hot pain he is feeling...but I know Ian would have loved the book very much, as would my dad!! I hope they get to read it wherever they are...!!! Here's to part 2, or to a totally different book altogether!! Thanks for writing it, Seth!!

There may be better places to ride and race your bike, but after living across the U.S., in Japan, and in Germany, I've yet to find it. The riding here is great, but the people are better, and the South Bay of Los Angeles, for all its obvious shortcomings, is the epicenter of all that's good about being part of a local cycling community. Part of the fun is the camaraderie, but it's also never knowing who might show up. Whether it's Nelson Vails, Barry Bonds, or an entire UCI pro team, LA's cycling scene is as celebrity-studded as its movie scene. When Brooke Shields showed up to check out the 2013 edition of the Brentwood Grand Prix, it was just part of racing and riding in Los Angeles. After more than thirty years of riding and racing, I decided to compile this book from the hundreds of posts I'd accumulated on my cycling blog, which is dedicated to the lives, the stories, and the histories of the riders in the South Bay. Everything I've written is true except for the parts I made up, which is all of it.

About the AuthorI started road riding in 1982, my freshman year in college, and did my first USCF race in Austin, Texas, in 1984. I've followed my bicycle ever since. After living in Japan for close to ten years, I returned to the U.S. in 2000 with my wife and three children. In 2006 I moved to California, where I now practice law, blog, ride, and race my bike. My life is uni-dimensional, but after almost fifty years of trying and failing to find that mythical "well-balanced life," I've come to terms with it. In a very important sense, it's that single-mindedness that has made me such a devotee of the bike. If you're also drinking the Kool-Aid, you'll know exactly what I mean.