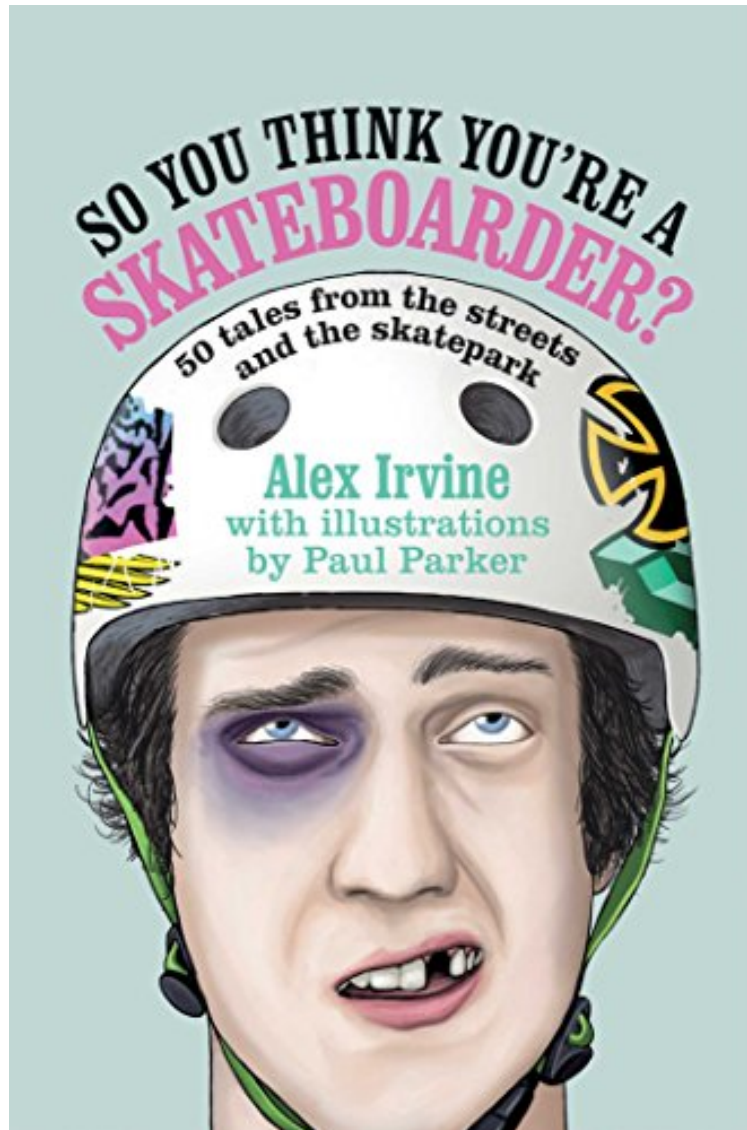


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## So You Think You're a Skateboarder?: 50 Tales from the Street and the Skatepark

Alex Irvine

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**Alex Irvine : So You Think You're a Skateboarder?: 50 Tales from the Street and the Skatepark** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised So You Think You're a Skateboarder?: 50 Tales from the Street and the Skatepark:

The attitudes and idiosyncracies of 50 different skateboarders considered and classified. From humble beginnings through to the modern day multi-million dollar industry it has become, skateboarding has been dragged from its outsider roots into the mainstream world. While the grizzled 80s skate veterans are up in arms that you can now buy a skateboard from nearly every mall or high street in nearly every town from London to NYC, the fact of the matter is the skateboarding community has snowballed from counter-culture activity into a sport that appeals just as much to the underground as it does to the average kid on the street. Now you're just as likely to see a skater sneaking into a local school as you are live on ESPN. With so many different strains of the skate family tree, it's hard to keep track of all the different tribes out there, and that's where *So You Think You're a Skateboarder* comes in. Fifty examples from the contemporary skate scene are examined in an attempt to unravel what makes skaters tick. Skaters include the Pushy Parent spending every Sunday at the local park trying to convince his kid to love skating in the same way he did. Or the 'friendly' Local, who's been determinedly skating the same spot for the last 10 years and will be damned if he's going to share it with any newcomers. The Wannabe Gangster spends as much time trying to nail bigspins as he does trying to emulate Biggie, and the Piss Drunk has spent the last four hours eyeballing shots of tequila and is about to attempt to boardslide the next handrail he can find.

**About the Author**Alex Irvine is a writer, editor, photographer and life-long skateboarder. He is the former editor of *Kingpin* skateboard magazine and now runs ABD Agency, a company dealing specifically with promoting skating and other action sports. He also manages the Witchcraft Skateboards team.