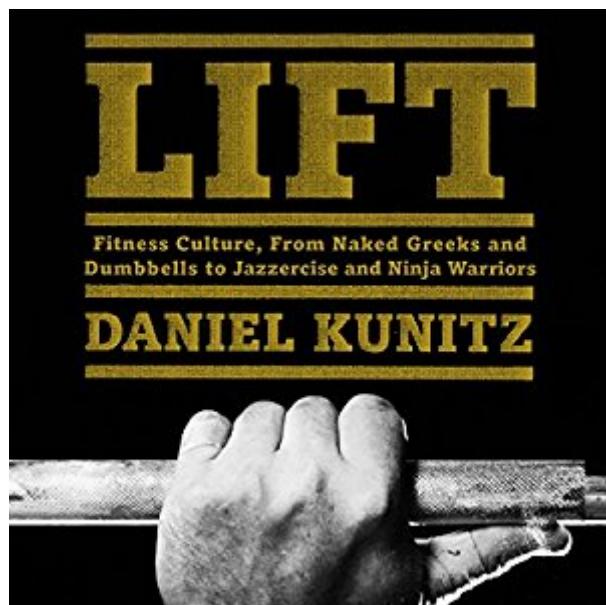


The book was found

# Lift: Fitness Culture, From Naked Greeks And Acrobats To Jazzercise And Ninja Warriors



## Synopsis

A fascinating cultural history of fitness, from Greek antiquity to the era of the "big-box gym" and beyond, exploring the ways in which human exercise has changed over time - and what we can learn from our ancestors. We humans have been conditioning our bodies for more than 2,500 years, yet it's only recently that treadmills and weight machines have become the gold standard of fitness. For all this new technology, are we really healthier, stronger, and more flexible than our ancestors? Where *Born to Run* began with an aching foot, *Lift* begins with a broken gym system - one founded on high-tech machinery and isolation techniques that aren't necessarily as productive as we think. Looking to the past for context, Daniel Kunitz crafts an insightful cultural history of the human drive for exercise, concluding that we need to get back to basics to be truly healthy. *Lift* takes us on an enlightening tour through time, beginning with the ancient Greeks, who made a cult of the human body - the word *gymnasium* derives from the Greek word for "naked" - and following Roman legions, medieval knights, Persian pahlevans, and 18th-century German gymnasts. Kunitz discovers the seeds of the modern gym in 19th-century Paris, where weight-lifting machines were first employed, and takes us all the way up to the game-changer: the feminist movement of the 1960s, which popularized aerobics and calisthenics classes. This ignited the first true global fitness revolution, and Kunitz explores how it brought us to where we are today. Once a fast-food inhaler and substance abuser, Kunitz reveals his own decade-long journey to becoming ultra-fit using ancient principals of strengthening and conditioning. With *Lift*, he argues that, as a culture, we are finally returning to this natural ideal - and that it's to our great benefit to do so.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours and 11 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audiobooks.com Publishing

Audible.com Release Date: July 6, 2016

Language: English

ASIN: B01HZXPLOY

Best Sellers Rank: #44 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Health, Mind & Body > Exercise & Fitness #119 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > History of Sports #142 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Sports & Recreation

## Customer Reviews

This is a book about the history of fitness \*CrossFit\*, how society has accepted fitness \*CrossFit\*, and how it has evolved into something superior \*CrossFit\*. And, oh yeah, by the way, CrossFit. I love working out and have often been intrigued by the history of how picking up heavy things and setting them back down again turned into the science we know today. I quickly realized I'd be disappointed, as this type of historical depiction was absent from the book. What was there, however, were a lot of views into societal norms, which I found to have the potential to be equally fascinating. Do we base our opinions of attractiveness on the fitness/athletics that are in the mainstream, or do we choose our fitness/athletic activities based on what we find attractive? Daniel Kunitz started exploring this, and I really would love to know the answer. Alas, the author contradicted himself here so many times that I never really found out. For a former Paris Review editor, I would have expected better prose and a flow of supporting ideas. What really was the nail in the coffin for me was the author's obsession with CrossFit. Full disclosure: I'm not a fan of CrossFit. But I know people who have had success on it, so good for them. I have no desire to judge someone based on how they workout. But I would be remiss if I didn't point out the book's fatal flaw is the cult like belief that CrossFit is the most superior fitness activity in the history of mankind. If it was limited to CrossFit's place in a chronological timeline, and concluded with CrossFit and its importance (even dominance as a fitness choice) in the 21st century, that would be understandable and tolerable.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Lift: Fitness Culture, from Naked Greeks and Acrobats to Jazercise and Ninja Warriors Option Greeks - Options Trading Greeks Simplified And How To Use Them To Profit 'By The Numbers' (Options Trading, Options Trading Strategies, Options Trading For Beginners, Stock Options, Options) Nutri Ninja Master Prep Blender Smoothie Book: 101 Superfood Smoothie Recipes For Better Health, Energy and Weight Loss! (Ninja Master Prep, Nutri ... Ninja Kitchen System Cookbooks) (Volume 1) The Nutri Ninja Master Prep Blender Whole Food Cookbook: 101 Delicious Soups, Spreads, Entrees, Desserts & Cocktails For Your Ninja Pro, Kitchen ... Ninja Kitchen System Cookbooks) (Volume 2) African Dance Trends (Dance and Fitness Trends) (Dance & Fitness Trends) The World of Crossfit (Dance and Fitness Trends) (Dance & Fitness Trends) Fitness Launch Formula: The no fear, no b.s., no hype, action plan for launching a profitable fitness business in 60 days - from someone who's done it. Fitness Launch Formula: The no fear, no b.s., no hype, action plan for launching a profitable fitness business in 60 days or less - from someone

who's done it Warriors: SkyClan and the Stranger #1: The Rescue (Warriors Manga) Warriors: SkyClan and the Stranger #2: Beyond the Code (Warriors Manga) Warriors #2: Fire and Ice (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors: Tigerstar and Sasha #3: Return to the Clans (Warriors Manga) Warriors #6: The Darkest Hour (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors: The Ultimate Guide (Warriors Field Guide) Warriors #5: A Dangerous Path (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors Box Set: Volumes 1 to 6: The Complete First Series (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors #1: Into the Wild (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors #3: Forest of Secrets (Warriors: The Prophecies Begin) Warriors Manga Box Set: Graystripe's Adventure (Warriors Manga: Graystripe's Trilogy) Maori Warriors (Torque Books: History's Greatest Warriors)

[Dmca](#)