

The Unforgettable Moments: Cricket's Most Magnificent Bowling Spells

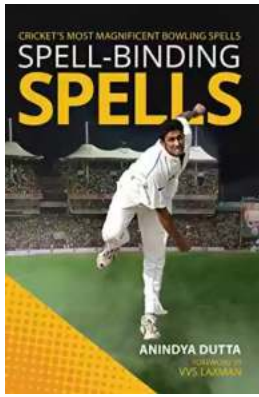
Cricketers have always been celebrated for their extraordinary performances and remarkable skills. While batting may grab the attention of many, bowling is an art that creates magic on the field. It is the bowler who holds the power to change the course of a cricket match in a matter of overs. In this article, let's relive some of the most magnificent bowling spells in the history of cricket that left spectators awestruck and batsmen trembling in their creases.

1. Shane Warne's 'Ball of the Century'

The year was 1993, and the venue was Old Trafford in England. Shane Warne, the Australian leg-spin wizard, delivered a ball that would become one of the most iconic moments in cricket's history. The ball pitched way outside the leg stump and turned sharply to hit Mike Gatting's off-stump. Gatting was left amazed and bewildered, as were cricket fans around the world. Warne's 'Ball of the Century' announced his arrival in international cricket and set the stage for a glittering career.

2. Wasim Akram's Fiery Spell

Wasim Akram, the legendary Pakistani left-arm fast bowler, produced a mesmerizing display of swing bowling during the 1992 World Cup final against England. His spell of reverse swing left the English batsmen clueless and struggling to survive. Akram's lethal pace and accuracy resulted in him picking up three crucial wickets, including the prized scalp of Allan Lamb. His performance played a significant role in Pakistan's victory, making it one of the most memorable moments in cricket history.



Spell-binding Spells : Cricket's most magnificent bowling spells by Anindya Dutta(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 22847 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Item Weight	: 4 ounces
Dimensions	: 5.12 x 0.43 x 7.68 inches



3. Muttiah Muralitharan's Magical Spin

The Sri Lankan legend, Muttiah Muralitharan, holds the record for the most wickets in Test and One Day International (ODI) cricket. His bowling action, coupled with his exceptional spin and variations, made him virtually unplayable for many batsmen. One of his outstanding spells came in 2006 during a Test match against England in which he took 9 wickets for 65 runs. Muralitharan's mastery over spin bowling astonished everyone watching, leaving England battered and bewildered.

4. Dale Steyn's Ferocious Pace

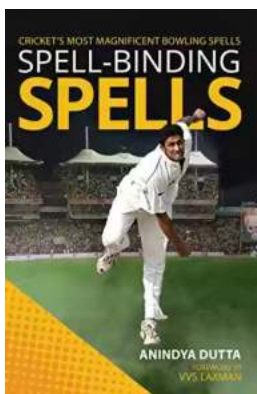
South African fast bowler Dale Steyn has been a nightmare for batsmen around the world. His sheer pace, combined with relentless accuracy, has troubled even the best in the game. One of his standout spells came in a Test match against Australia in 2014. Steyn's fiery spell of fast bowling, where he took four wickets

for ten runs, rattled the Australian batting lineup and helped South Africa secure a memorable victory. It was a testament to Steyn's ability to produce intimidating spells that often turned the tide in his team's favor.

5. Imran Khan's Brilliant Performance

Before becoming Pakistan's legendary captain and influential leader, Imran Khan was an exceptional fast bowler who produced several memorable spells. One such performance came in a Test match against India in 1983. Khan's furious pace and intelligent bowling resulted in him achieving his career-best figures of 8 wickets for 60 runs. The Indian batsmen struggled to handle his swing and seam movement, making it a truly magnificent display by Khan.

Cricketers like Shane Warne, Wasim Akram, Muttiah Muralitharan, Dale Steyn, and Imran Khan have left an indelible mark on the game through their remarkable bowling spells. These moments not only provided immense joy for the spectators but also showcased the extraordinary talent and skill possessed by these legends of the cricketing world. The memories of these spellbinding performances will forever hold a special place in the hearts of cricket enthusiasts around the globe.



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Spell-binding Spells is a book for everyone who loves cricket. It is about stunning spells—those few overs that occur rarely in cricket, when bowlers weave magic and batsmen are mesmerized.

What did the stunning bowling spells of Anil Kumble, Narendra Hirwani, Ravichandran Ashwin, Padmakar Shivalkar, and Yuzvendra Chahal achieve that Kapil Dev's career best spell could not?

Curtly Ambrose and Sarfraz Nawaz, 14-years apart, bowled identical deadly spells against the same opposition taking 7 wickets for 1 run. Who were the hapless victims?

Why did Gary Gilmour of Australia with an ODI bowling average of 10.31 and Clarrie Grimmett of Australia after taking 13 wickets in a Test in two magnificent spells, never play for their respective countries again?

Spell-binding Spells looks at 50 of the most magnificent bowling spells in the history of cricket and answers some of these questions.

VVS Laxman says: "This book is a tribute to bowlers, a breed that has never profited from the benefit of the doubt in a sport whose rules have historically always favoured batsmen. This nice little treatise is a reminder that we must ensure that the history of this game continues to get passed on from one generation to the next."



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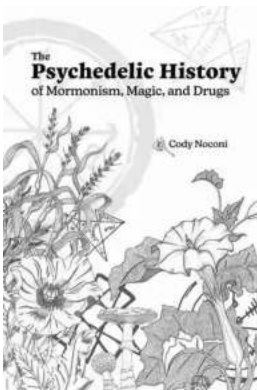
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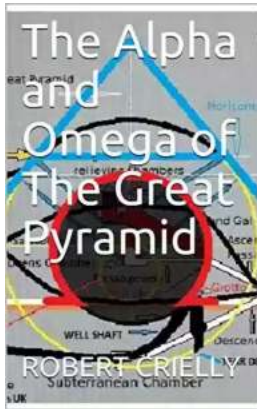
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