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# Game, Set, Match, Champion Arthur Ashe



## Synopsis

A picture book biography of Arthur Ashe, who began playing on segregated courts and went on to become the top tennis player in the world. From the start, Arthur Ashe was an unlikely tennis player. As a young boy in the 1940s, he was small and skinny - and barred from most tennis courts because he was black. Still, Arthur was drawn to the game and began to play wherever he could. With patience, hard work, and humility, Arthur pursued his dream. Defeating player after player, match after match, he blazed a path on the courts, becoming the first African American man to win a Grand Slam tournament.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,552,047 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Racket Sports](#) #812 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Sports & Recreation](#) #954 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism](#)

Age Range: 7 - 11 years

Grade Level: 2 - 6

## Customer Reviews

Crystal Hubbard first met Arthur Ashe when she was eight years old. Although she didn't play tennis, she eventually developed a love of the sport--one that prompted her to write this stunning biography of the first African American man to win a Grand Slam tournament. Game, Set, Match, Champion Arthur Ashe begins in the early 1950s when tennis facilities in Virginia were segregated. A young boy named Arthur used to watch one of the top black college tennis players practice and he watched him so much that the player, Ron Charity, eventually asked Arthur if he'd like to learn to play. When Arthur replied, "Yes, I would," I'm sure nobody expected what was to come. Arthur

started winning, and his confidence grew. By the time Arthur was ten, he was ready for more extensive coaching and he spent his summers at a tennis camp at the home of Dr. Robert Walter Johnson in Lynchburg, Virginia. By Arthur's senior year of high school, Arthur moved to St. Louis, so he could play tennis all year. He competed against top players and was one of the first to use the aggressive style that came to be known as "serve-and-volley." Arthur earned a scholarship to UCLA and won his first grand slam event in 1968. At twenty-five, he was the number one player in the U.S. and the only elite black player. He then went on to have a grueling match against Jimmy Connors, the number one player in the world and defending Wimbledon Champ. But it was Arthur who defeated Connors, becoming the first African American man to win Wimbledon. This is a stunning portrait of a man who broke barriers in the tennis world. It teaches young readers not only about the life and perseverance of Arthur Ashe, but it also teaches them how wrong and hurtful it was to be separated because of one's race.

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