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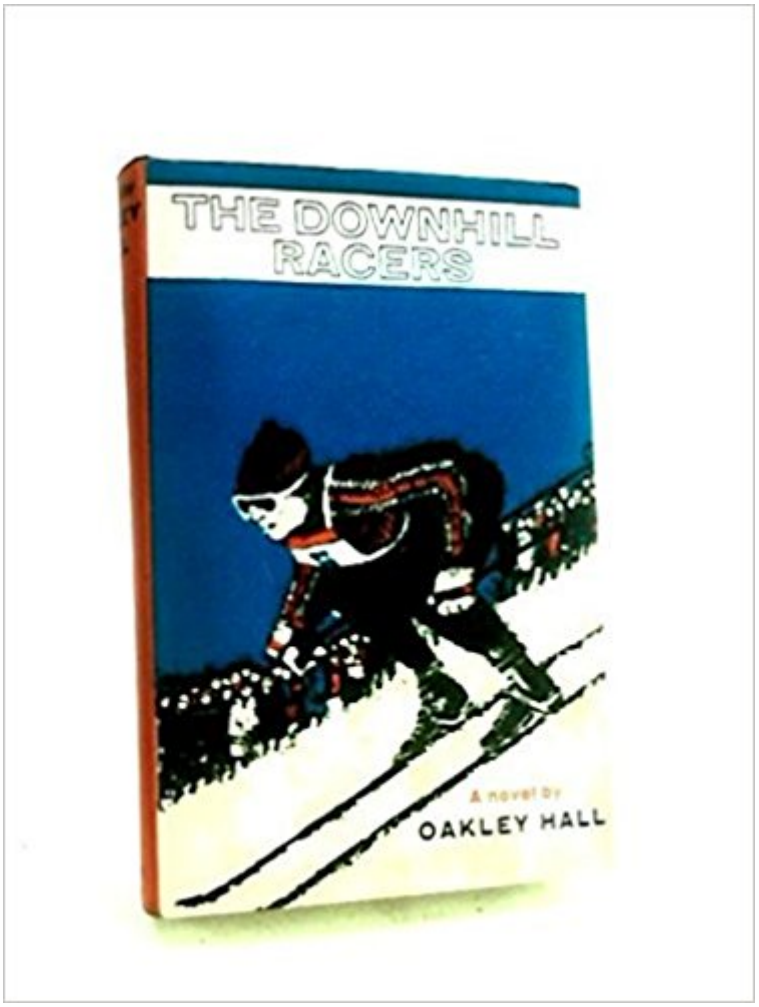

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

About a group of world-class skiers and their attempts to out beat each other in downhill competitions and out-bed each other with the hangers-on that seem to follow them from Aspen to Squaw Valley to the Alps. Narrated by Jack, the tough one, the super-competitor who has an epiphany at the end: "I had wanted to beat everyone in the world at this one thing [downhill racing]. Today that wanting had been cast out of me like a devil exorcised." (He pulled out of a race after he was halfway down the course when a racer in front of him fell.) He's in love with Georgiana and realizes that maybe now he should settle down with her and do something "useful" with his life. There's nothing especially extraordinary about the plot, but what casts the book beyond the average is Hall's superb writing, especially the dialogue, which I think is in a league with John O'Hara's: it's fresh and exciting and, most of all, totally believable. Worth checking out for that alone.

I bought this copy to replace my older one lost in the flood. I first read it when it first made paperback. Loved it then, love it now. Different from the Redford movie, but both are great.

A fun read.

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