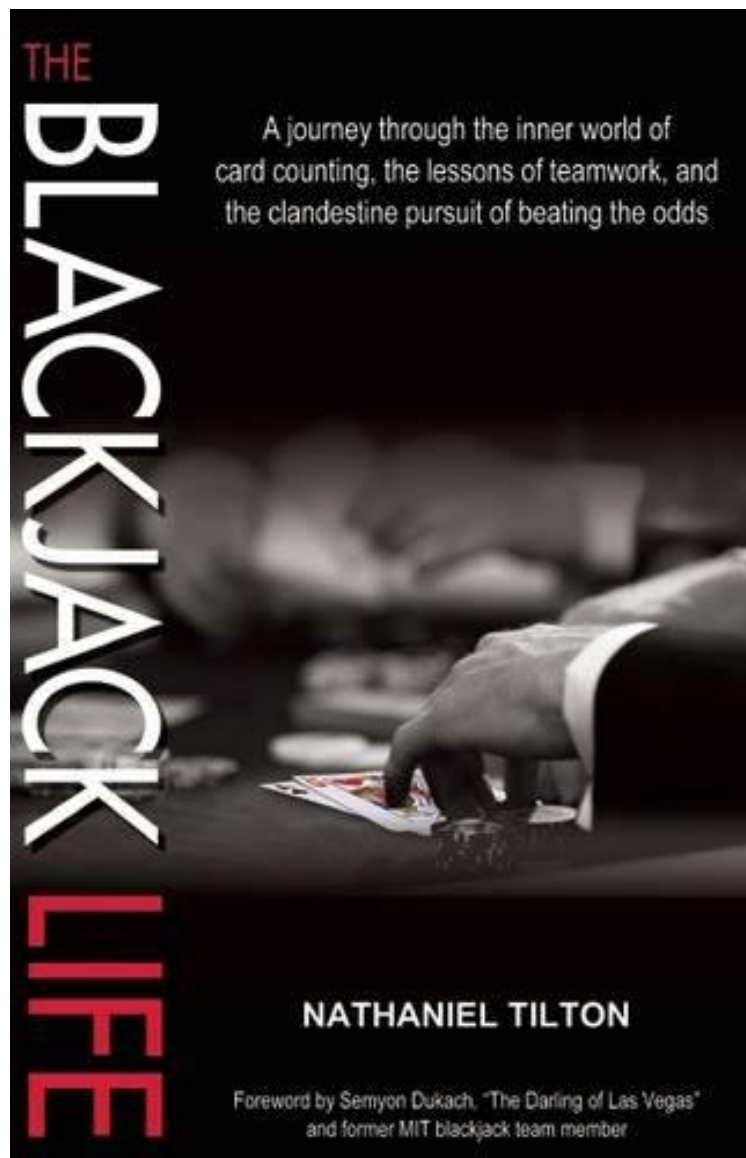


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# The Blackjack Life: A Journey Through the Inner World of Card Counting, the Lessons of Teamwork, and the Clandestine Pursuit of Beating the Odds

*Nathaniel Tilton*

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Better Than Bringing Down the House By David GI have always been fascinated by people who blackjack for a living and this book is definitely at the top. The plot is basically how two non players begin as novices and progress to professionals. It is not an instruction book directly but the card counting, practicing, and special exception rules (think they called in indexes) are part of the story and if you have studied counting you will know what they are talking about. This book left me with an impression of the discipline necessary to become a pro, some of those books where after learning to count cards and almost "magically" win have left me bored. The writing style is easy and it feels like you are right next to the author, so yes, pick it up. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Compelling even to a non-gambler By Maureen MI read this book during one long plane ride. Fearful that I wouldn't be interested in it as my interest in gambling is low, I brought other books. They never got opened. It was a hard book to put down. I really enjoyed this book on lots of levels. It's an interesting story, even if you know nothing or care nothing about blackjack. It's fascinating to follow someone as they become an expert at a skill. And when the skill is based on memory, strategy, and mental gymnastics, it's pretty amazing. Read it. You'll love it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great memoir By Prana Other than the beginning of the book which was elementary stuff, the rest of book is quite exciting and insightful. This probably the best blackjack memoir that I have read

Nathaniel Tilton was leading an ordinary existence as an early-30s financial advisor in Boston. Then, without a destination in mind, he set out to experience life in more meaningful ways. His path was forged when he met famed MIT blackjack team member, Semyon Dukach, who inspired Nathaniel to become a world-class blackjack player. Together with his friend, D.A., he dove headfirst into the life of an elite blackjack card counter. But while studying the many books available on blackjack strategy, he discovered that the tactics described all applied to either big teams or solo practitioners. Accordingly, adjustments were made so that the techniques would work while playing with a single partner. The result was the creation of a virtually undetectable small-team system, something never before documented. The details of this secret system are delivered within the pages of this exhilarating narrative, describing a glitzy gambler's life of high-roller suites, gourmet restaurants, and top-shelf entertainment, along with a dark side of deception and personal risk that would eventually take him to the casino backrooms he'd hoped he would never see. *The Blackjack Life* provides an informed view of the opportunities that still exist for skilled players, a detailed explanation of what it takes to become one, and a thorough chronicling of what it's like to travel that road. It's also the story of the growth of a man who discovered who he was and who he wanted to be in the unlikeliest of places--the world of a professional blackjack player.

About the Author Nathaniel Tilton is a personal-wealth advisor, philanthropist, advantage player, and blackjack consultant. Raised in Kennebunkport, Maine, he attended the University of New Hampshire, where he graduated with a degree in sports management and a minor in business. He worked on the business side of professional sports before transitioning to the world of finance. He is an avid golfer and a founder of a fundraising charity, [ArenaTilton.org](http://ArenaTilton.org). Nathaniel currently resides in greater Boston with his wife, Celeste, and their son, Caden.