

## Rounding Third A Baseball Anthology

Baseball's Winning Ways is written for enjoyment, inspiration, and information by the author of The 10 Commandments of Baseball, J. D. Thorne. Winning Ways examines baseball eras and their backgrounds, along with profiles of great current and past players. The drama of the game, its history, baseball superstitions, statistics, and the story of trading cards are presented clearly for readers from age 12 on up. The central theme of the book is baseball's winning ways, those principles that are essential to the best baseball programs. The author points out that baseball promotes certain virtues that are so important today. These are the values that parents, grandparents, teachers and coaches want to pass down to the next generation-as important now as ever. The last third of the book is focused on learning aids: a quiz, discussion questions, a glossary, an exercise on virtues used by Ben Franklin, and extras that make the book especially relevant and useful. As the book moves quickly through time with the story of the game, important American history and its leaders are highlighted with photographs and profiles. Baseball's Winning Ways offers plenty of interesting reading for the fan at home. Tools have been added to make Winning Ways a wonderful book for schools, home-schooling, and libraries as well. Readers will find baseball topics that take them to new places and interests. Rounding out the books attractions are "Curveball Quiz" illustrations by artist Bill Potter that are reminiscent of classic baseball cards that entertain and challenge readers' knowledge. The players' biographies section helps careful readers solve these. The ambitious features and benefits of this book will entertained and enlightened all readers. Parents and grandparents will enjoy this book as much as their children and grandchildren. Author J. D. Thorne is an attorney who has promoted the good in baseball throughout his life in his writings, speaking, and his personal involvement with those in the game at every level.

This is a straightforward history of the Athletics franchise, from its Connie Mack years in Philadelphia with teams featuring Eddie Collins, Chief Bender, Jimmy Foxx, Mickey Cochrane and Lefty Grove, through its 13 years in Kansas City, under Arnold Johnson and Charles O. Finley, and on to its great years in Oakland--with the three World Series wins featuring Catfish Hunter, Reggie Jackson, Sal Bando and Vida Blue, and the conflicts with Finley--as well as the less successful seasons that followed, then the Series sweep in 1989, and ending up with the unusual operation of the club by Billy Beane.

The first rule of book club: You don't talk about book club. Nashville Legends second baseman Gavin Scott's marriage is in major league trouble. He's recently discovered a humiliating secret: his wife Thea has always faked the Big O. When he loses his cool at the revelation, it's the final straw on their already strained relationship. Thea asks for a divorce, and Gavin realizes he's let his pride and fear get the better of him. Welcome to the Bromance Book Club. Distraught and desperate, Gavin finds help from an unlikely source: a secret romance book club made up of Nashville's top alpha men. With the help of their current read, a steamy Regency titled Courting the Countess, the guys coach Gavin on saving his marriage. But it'll take a lot more than flowery words and grand gestures for this hapless Romeo to find his inner hero and win back the trust of his wife.

"The best baseball book I've read in years." — Sam Walker • "An exhilarating story of innovation." — Ben Reiter • "Swing Kings feels like a spiritual successor to Moneyball." — Baseball Prospectus From the Wall Street Journal's national baseball writer, the captivating story of the home run boom, following a group of players who rose from obscurity to stardom and the rogue swing coaches who helped them usher the game into a new age. We are in a historic era for the home run. The 2019 season saw the most homers ever, obliterating a record set just

two years before. It is a shift that has transformed the way the game is played, contributing to more strikeouts, longer games, and what feels like the logical conclusion of the analytics era. In *Swing Kings*, Wall Street Journal national baseball writer Jared Diamond reveals that the secret behind this unprecedented shift isn't steroids or the stitching of the baseballs, it's the most elemental explanation of all: the swing. In this lively narrative romp, he tracks a group of baseball's biggest stars—including Aaron Judge, J.D. Martinez, and Justin Turner—who remade their swings under the tutelage of a band of renegade coaches, and remade the game in the process. These coaches, many of them baseball washouts who have reinvented themselves as swing gurus, for years were one of the game's best-kept secrets. Among their ranks are a swimming pool contractor, the owner of a billiards hall, and an ex-hippie whose swing insights draw from surfing and the technique of Japanese samurai. Now, as Diamond artfully charts, this motley cast has moved from the baseball margins to its center of power. They are changing the way hitting is taught to players of all ages, and major league clubs are scrambling for their services, hiring them in record numbers as coaches and consultants. And Diamond himself, whose baseball career ended in high school, enlists the tutelage of each swing coach he profiles, with an aim toward starring in the annual Boston-New York media game at Yankee Stadium. *Swing Kings* is both a rollicking history of baseball's recent past and a deeply reported, character-driven account of a battle between opponents as old as time: old and new, change and stasis, the establishment and those who break from it. Jared Diamond has written a masterful chronicle of America's pastime at the crossroads.

A behind-the-scenes analysis of professional baseball's hidden rules reveals the impact of unwritten codes of conduct, retaliatory behaviors, and cheating, providing examples as committed by such figures as Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, and Don Drysdale.

More than 6 years after his death David Halberstam remains one of this country's most respected journalists and revered authorities on American life and history in the years since WWII. A Pulitzer Prize-winner for his ground-breaking reporting on the Vietnam War, Halberstam wrote more than 20 books, almost all of them bestsellers. His work has stood the test of time and has become the standard by which all journalists measure themselves. *The Teammates* is the profoundly moving story of four great baseball players who have made the passage from sports icons--when they were young and seemingly indestructible--to men dealing with the vulnerabilities of growing older. At the core of the book is the friendship of these four very different men--Boston Red Sox teammates Bobby Doerr, Dominic DiMaggio, Johnny Pesky, and Ted Williams--who remained close for more than sixty years. The book starts out in early October 2001, when Dominic DiMaggio and Johnny Pesky begin a 1,300-mile trip by car to visit their beloved friend Ted Williams, whom they know is dying. Bobby Doerr, the fourth member of this close group--"my guys," Williams used to call them--is unable to join them. This is a book--filled with historical details and first-hand accounts--about baseball and about something more: the richness of friendship.

Baseball is a game which links the generations and transcends the usual boundaries of time. "Rounding Third and Headed for Home" pays poetic tribute to fifty early stars and innovators of the game. The early pioneers believed that baseball revealed the physical strength, mental prowess, and inner fortitude and determination of the game's participants. As such, this book of poetry provides a glimpse into the lives of these baseball greats in a manner which celebrates their multifaceted, vibrant and unique lives both on and off the diamond.

Take a walk down memory lane with a group of Major League Baseball Hall of Famers as they share their memories of that one favorite game. From Red Schoendienst's first professional game, with butterflies causing error after error until the great Branch Rickey assured him that he'd be in the game for a long time; and Paul Molitor's rounding the bases in Game 6 of the 1993 World Series, looking up into the stands to make eye contact with his father; to Bobby Doerr, the oldest living Hall of Famer; to Goose Gossage, one of the most recent Hall of

Fame inductees, their memories are all here and told in poignant detail by the players themselves as they look back over the arc of their careers and recall their most memorable moments on the diamond. "Yogi Was Up with a Guy on Third..." is a book that will delight baseball fans of all ages.

### Rounding Third, a Baseball Anthology

At forty-four years old, Tim Wakefield is the longest-serving member of one of baseball's most popular franchises. He is close to eclipsing the winning records of two of the greatest pitchers to have played the game, yet few realize the full measure of his success. That his career can be characterized by such words as dependability and consistency defies all odds because he has achieved this with baseball's most mercurial weapon—the knuckleball. Knuckler is the story of how a struggling position player bet his future on a fickle pitch that would define his career. The pitch may drive hitters crazy, but how does the pitcher stay sane? The moment Wakefield adopted the knuckleball, his career sought to answer that question. With the Red Sox, Wakefield began to master his pitch only to find himself on the mound in 2003 for one of the worst post-season losses in history, followed the next year by one of the most vindicating of championships. Even now, as Wakefield battles, we see the twists and turns of a major league career pushed to its ultimate extreme. A remarkable story of one player's success despite being the exception to every rule, Knuckler is also a lively meditation on the dancing pitch, its history, its mystique, and all the ironies it brings to bear.

Angry with his mother for having too little time for him, eleven-year-old Felix takes advantage of an opportunity to become bat boy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder. Jr Lib Guild. Reprint.

"The remarkable story of Bryce Harper's unforgettable ride from Morse Stadium to the top of the baseball draft" (Jayson Stark, ESPN.com) updated from the hardcover edition (The Last Natural) to include his Rookie of the Year season! Before he famously became a Major League All-Star as a teenager, Harper already had dominated high school competition like Mickey Mantle on the playground and appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated, which dubbed him the "most exciting prodigy since LeBron James." Seeking greater tests as a hitter, the precocious star got his GED after his sophomore year and enrolled at the College of Southern Nevada, where he would face future pro pitchers in a difficult wooden-bat league. Sportswriter Rob Miech was "embedded" with the team—in the dugout and locker room and on team buses and in motel rooms—to provide a warts-and-all account of a boy among men playing like a man among boys. Amid fascinating personal stories including the dynamics between a veteran coach and Harper's overprotective father, the jealousies of teammates and opponents, and the sudden descent of press armies on a tiny college field, the author chronicles a season-long experiment that culminates in Harper leading the Coyotes to the Junior College World Series and signing a \$9.9 million contract negotiated by notorious agent Scott Boras. Sporting a fresh cover and a bonus chapter that covers Harper's award-winning rookie season with the Washington Nationals, this expanded edition of Phenom (originally published as The Last Natural) gives fans an all-access pass to baseball's newest rising star.

Pedro Gomez of ESPN was a beloved figure in the world of baseball and his death from sudden cardiac arrest on Feb. 7, 2021, unleashed an outpouring of heartfelt tributes. He was 58, both a hard-nosed reporter and a smiling ambassador of the sport. These 62 personal essays soar beyond sports to delve into life lessons. Pedro, a proud Cuban American, was known for his dramatic reporting from Havana. Fully and fluidly bilingual, he did as much as anyone to bridge the wide gap that had existed between U.S.-born players and the Latin Americans now so important to the game's vitality and future growth. He was also a family man who loved to talk about his three children, Sierra, Dante and Rio, a Boston Red Sox prospect. Pedro was universally known as a smiling presence who brought out the best in people. His humanity and

generosity of spirit shaped countless lives, including one of his ESPN bosses, Rob King, who was so moved by Pedro's advice to him--"Remember who you are"--that he printed up the words and posted them on the wall of his office in Bristol. King is one of a diverse collection of contributors whose personal essays turn Pedro's shocking death into an occasion to reflect on the deeper truths of life we too often overlook. Part *The Pride of Havana* and part *Tuesdays With Morrie*, part *The Tender Bar* and part *Ball Four*, this is the rare essay collection that reads like a novel, full of achingly honest emotion and painful insights, a book about friendship, a book about standing for something, a book about joy and love. Former New York Times writer Jack Curry writes about Pedro's passion for live music, and former Sports Illustrated writer Tim Kurkjian brings alive spring-training basketball games with executives like Sandy Anderson and Billy Beane and Pedro right in the mix. Detroit manager AJ Hinch and former Texas manager Ron Washington both reveal that in their darkest hours Pedro gave them some of the best advice of their lives. Hall of Famers Dennis Eckersley, Tony La Russa, Peter Gammons, Ross Newhan, Tracy Ringolsby and Dan Shaughnessy are among the contributors. So are likely future Hall of Famers Max Scherzer and Dusty Baker. Pulitzer-Prize-winning Washington Post war correspondent Steve Fainaru, award-winning writers from Howard Bryant and Mike Barnicle to Tim Keown, Ken Rosenthal and Dave Sheinin also contribute. Rounding out the mix are current and former ESPN stars including Rachel Nichols, Shelley M. Smith, Peter Gammons, Bob Ley and Keith Olbermann. This is a book to rekindle in any lapsed fan a love of going to the ballpark, but it's also a wakeup call that transcends sports. To any journalist, worn down by the demands of a punishing job, to anyone anywhere, pummeled by pandemic times and the dark mood of the country in recent years, these essays will light a spark to seize every opportunity to make a difference, in your work and in the lives of people who matter to you.

It's been called "The Shot Heard Round the World," the miracle home run hit by Bobby Thomson that won the National League pennant for the Giants -- and is considered one of the most dramatic moments in baseball history. Now, in his own words, Bobby Thomson tells the complete story of that incredible event with fascinating details only he can provide.

In the most famous scandal of sports history, eight Chicago White Sox players--including Shoeless Joe Jackson--agreed to throw the 1919 World Series to the Cincinnati Reds in exchange for the promise of \$20,000 each from gamblers reportedly working for New York mobster Arnold Rothstein. Heavily favored, Chicago lost the Series five games to three. Although rumors of a fix flew while the series was being played, they were largely disregarded by players and the public at large. It wasn't until a year later that a general investigation into baseball gambling reopened the case, and a nationwide scandal emerged. In this book, Charles Fountain offers a full and engaging history of one of baseball's true moments of crisis and hand-wringing, and shows how the scandal changed the way American baseball was both managed and perceived. After an extensive investigation and a trial that became a national morality play, the jury returned not-guilty verdicts for all of the White Sox players in August of 1921. The following day, Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis, baseball's new commissioner, "regardless of the verdicts of juries," banned the eight players for life. And thus the Black Sox entered into American mythology. Guilty or innocent? Guilty and innocent? The country wasn't sure in 1921, and as Fountain shows, we still aren't sure today. But we are continually pulled to the story, because so much of modern sport, and our attitude towards it, springs from the scandal. Fountain traces the Black Sox story from its roots in the gambling culture that pervaded the game in the years surrounding World War I, through the confusing events of the 1919 World Series itself, to the noisy aftermath and trial, and illuminates the moment as baseball's tipping point. Despite the clumsy unfolding of the scandal and trial and the callous treatment of the players involved, the Black Sox saga was a cleansing moment for the sport. It launched the age of the baseball commissioner, as baseball owners hired Landis and surrendered to him the control of their game. Fountain shows how sweeping

changes in 1920s triggered by the scandal moved baseball away from its association with gamblers and fixers, and details how American's attitude toward the pastime shifted as they entered into "The Golden Age of Sport." Situating the Black Sox events in the context of later scandals, including those involving Reds manager and player Pete Rose, and the ongoing use of steroids in the game up through the present, Fountain illuminates America's near century-long fascination with the story, and its continuing relevance today.

Follows the divergent paths of a rookie hitter for the Chicago Cubs and a hard-hitting Mets pitcher.

Traces the history of baseball and offers profiles of the individuals who shaped the game.

The movie Jerry Maguire and HBO series Arli\$\$ barely skimmed the surface. Now the true inside story of the sports agent business is exposed as never before. During baseball's evolution from national pastime to a \$3.6 billion business, the game's agents have played a pivotal role in driving and (some might say) ruining the sport. In a world of unchecked egos and minimal regulation, client-stealing and financial inducements have become commonplace, leading many to label the field a cesspool, devoid of loyalties and filled with predators. Matt Sosnick entered these shark-infested waters in 1997, leaving a job as CEO of a San Francisco high-tech company to represent ballplayers--and hoping to do so while keeping his romantic love of baseball and his integrity intact. License to Deal follows Sosnick as he deals with his up-and-coming clients (his most famous is the 2003 rookie-of-the-year pitching sensation Dontrelle Willis). We become privy to never-before-disclosed stories behind the rise of baseball's most powerful agent, Scott Boras. And we get a novel perspective on the art of the deal and the economics of baseball. By one of baseball's most respected sportswriters, who is now ESPN.com's lead Insider baseball reporter, License to Deal, like Michael Lewis's bestselling Moneyball, will provide fuel for many a heated baseball discussion.

Baseball and Philosophy brings together two high-powered pastimes: the sport of baseball and the academic discipline of philosophy. Eric Bronson asked eighteen young professors to provide their profound analysis of some aspect of baseball. The result offers surprisingly deep insights into this most American of games. The contributors include many of the leading voices in the burgeoning new field of philosophy of sport, plus a few other talented philosophers with a personal interest in baseball. A few of the contributors are also drawn from academic areas outside philosophy: statistics, law, and history. This volume gives the thoughtful baseball fan substantial material to think more deeply about. What moral issues are raised by the Intentional Walk? Do teams sometimes benefit from the self-interested behavior of their individual members? How can Zen be applied to hitting? Is it ethical to employ deception in sports? Can a game be defined by its written rules or are there also other constraints? What can the U.S. Supreme Court learn from umpiring? Why should baseball be the only industry exempt from antitrust laws? What part does luck play in any game of skill?

Baseball. Zen. Poetry. Put them all together, and you have word sketches of baseball icons: Mays, Musial, Maris, Mantle, Williams, Aaron, Ruth. A salute to the 2012 San Francisco Giants. And personal reflections of mindful observation. Even if baseball or poetry is not your cup of tea, you are sure to enjoy these portraits and snapshots in words. Celebrate the human spirit on the playing fields of the heart.

This collection pays poetic tribute to fifty early stars and innovators of the game. Baseball is a game which links the generations and transcends the usual boundaries of time. The early pioneers believed that baseball revealed the physical strength, mental prowess, and inner fortitude and determination of the game's participants. As such, this book of poetry provides a glimpse into the lives of these baseball greats in a manner which celebrates their multifaceted, vibrant and unique lives both on and off the diamond. Dr. William J. Maloney is a clinical associate professor at New York University College of Dentistry. He is a fellow of the Academy of Dentistry International, the New York Academy of Medicine, the Royal Society of Medicine and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. Dr. Maloney is the author of over 270 professional

publications. He has also been presented with the Award of Excellence from The Floating Hospital of New York City. He has also been inducted into various prestigious organizations and societies, such as The New York Academy of Medicine and The Royal Society of Medicine.

Photographs of professional players in action as well as step-by-step guides to drills for performing specific positions combine to provide advice and instruction designed to help improve how the game is played.

Everything a young player needs to enjoy the greatest game in the world! It's been called the greatest game on earth; but perfecting it takes time, patience and practice. In *The Baseball Book*, Kevin Briand tells kids everything they need to know to master the art of this classic sport. With clear, concise text and step-by-step photography, Briand leads his readers through the proper techniques in several skill areas including throwing and receiving, ground balls and fly balls, pitching and catching, hitting and baserunning, and team drills. Rounding out this comprehensive approach is a chapter on warm-up and stretching. For players eager to get started on the road to the majors, Briand lists Canada's baseball leagues and associations. He also offers a chapter on choosing the proper equipment. A perfect introduction to a timeless game, *The Baseball Book* will help baseball beginners become baseball players.

Small town dreams. Big-time passion. You'll find them both in Sanders City. The town's love affair with baseball sparks some scorching affairs off the field. And the men are fair game... In "Hot August Night," Erin O'Shea is a high school principal with sports on her mind. The school's lack of a baseball coach coincides with her lack of a man. Luckily, bad-boy former pro Michael Manning is ready and willing to fill both positions... "Heat Wave" finds Josey Cooper, a recently divorced drama teacher, rounding the bases with Chase Mitchell, the sexy manager of the Sanders City Flyers who is playing for keeps... Skin-tight pants are hard to resist—especially when they're on a starting pitcher. In "Hotshot," sensible schoolteacher Halley Forrester finds herself loosening up with Reese Taylor, who's an all-star in more ways than one...

In a year shaped by national tragedy, baseball was shaped by amazing pitching--culminating in a victory by a Detroit Tigers team that faced off against Bob Gibson's St. Louis Cardinals, the 1967 World Series defending champions.

A behavioral economist and a veteran *Sports Illustrated* writer analyze hidden influences and subtle biases that shape sports plays, covering such topics as performance pressures, the "home field advantage" and the overpayment of athletic talent. Reprint.

Bob, a big green dinosaur, is asked to join the local baseball team and his hit helps win the first game of the season.

The Wizard of Oz meets America's favorite pastime! Alex Metcalf must be dreaming. What else would explain why he's playing baseball for the Oz Cyclones, with Dorothy as his captain, in the Ever After Baseball Tournament? But Alex isn't dreaming; he's just from the real world. And winning the tournament might be his only chance to get back there, because the champions get a wish granted by the Wizard. Too bad Ever After's most notorious criminal, the Big Bad Wolf, is also after the wishes. And anyone who gets in his way gets eaten! From beloved baseball author Alan Gratz comes a novel in which classic literary characters are baseball crazy, and one real-world boy must face his fears and discover the surprising truth about himself.

*Baseball Hacks* isn't your typical baseball book--it's a book about how to watch, research, and understand baseball. It's an instruction manual for the free baseball databases. It's a cookbook for baseball research. Every part of this book is designed to teach baseball fans how to do something. In short, it's a how-to book--one that will increase your enjoyment and knowledge of the game. So much of the way baseball is played today hinges upon interpreting statistical data. Players are acquired based on their performance in statistical categories that

ownership deems most important. Managers make in-game decisions based not on instincts, but on probability - how a particular batter might fare against left-handed pitching, for instance. The goal of this unique book is to show fans all the baseball-related stuff that they can do for free (or close to free). Just as open source projects have made great software freely available, collaborative projects such as Retrosheet and Baseball DataBank have made great data freely available. You can use these data sources to research your favorite players, win your fantasy league, or appreciate the game of baseball even more than you do now. Baseball Hacks shows how easy it is to get data, process it, and use it to truly understand baseball. The book lists a number of sources for current and historical baseball data, and explains how to load it into a database for analysis. It then introduces several powerful statistical tools for understanding data and forecasting results. For the uninitiated baseball fan, author Joseph Adler walks readers through the core statistical categories for hitters (batting average, on-base percentage, etc.), pitchers (earned run average, strikeout-to-walk ratio, etc.), and fielders (putouts, errors, etc.). He then extrapolates upon these numbers to examine more advanced data groups like career averages, team stats, season-by-season comparisons, and more.

Whether you're a mathematician, scientist, or season-ticket holder to your favorite team, Baseball Hacks is sure to have something for you. Advance praise for Baseball Hacks: "Baseball Hacks is the best book ever written for understanding and practicing baseball analytics. A must-read for baseball professionals and enthusiasts alike." -- Ari Kaplan, database consultant to the Montreal Expos, San Diego Padres, and Baltimore Orioles "The game was born in the 19th century, but the passion for its analysis continues to grow into the 21st. In Baseball Hacks, Joe Adler not only demonstrates that the latest data-mining technologies have useful application to the study of baseball statistics, he also teaches the reader how to do the analysis himself, arming the dedicated baseball fan with tools to take his understanding of the game to a higher level." -- Mark E. Johnson, Ph.D., Founder, SportMetrika, Inc. and Baseball Analyst for the 2004 St. Louis Cardinals

Baseball player and manager Hugh Ambrose Jennings was the kind of colorful personality who inspired nicknames. Sportswriters called him "Ee-yah" for his famous coaching box cry and "Hustling Hughey" for his style of play. But to the nearly 100 other men from northeast Pennsylvania who followed Jennings from the coal mines to the major leagues, he was known as "Big Daddy," not for his physical stature but for his iconic status to men desperate to escape the mines. The son of an immigrant coal miner from Pittston, Pennsylvania, Jennings himself became a miner at the ripe old age of 11 or 12. He eventually became a mule driver, earning \$1.10 per day and dreaming of getting \$5 per day for playing baseball on Saturday afternoons. From the rough-and-tumble world of semi-pro baseball to the major leagues, Jennings was driven to succeed and fearless in his pursuit of his dream. He joined the Baltimore Orioles in 1894 and went on to become manager of the Detroit Tigers during Ty Cobb's heyday. Jennings' story is emblematic of how the national pastime and the American dream came together for a generation of ballplayers in the early 20th century.

Rob realizes his new friend is hiding something. The bruises on Josh's body and his reluctance to let Rob know about certain parts of his life have Rob suspicious. When Josh's secrets become life-threatening, Rob and his family must step up to the plate.

Baserunning provides the instruction, techniques, and drills for developing essential skills, such as leading, base stealing, tagging up, and sliding. This comprehensive guide provides players and coaches with the secrets and strategies for all baserunning situations.

See how family, faith, and fun finds its way into the life of the author.

If you love baseball, be prepared for a thrill! Flipping through these pages is like taking a stroll through history. Superstars and record-breakers of today share space with yesterday's heroes. Unforgettable stories and historic photos bring the

golden age of baseball to life. Get to know the greatest players of all time through fascinating facts and statistics as well as hilarious quotations. Meet the sluggers and the speedsters, the hotshots and the legends. See Babe Ruth's famous "called shot," and capture the excitement of Barry Bonds's 73rd home run. Relive memorable moments and classic World Series games. You'll almost hear the roar of the crowd and thrill to the sight of your hero digging in at the plate. The history of baseball is rich and colorful. It seems everyone from American presidents to the stars themselves has something to say about America's game, and it's all right here. The Love of Baseball is so much more than just a book about baseball; it is the very essence of the game itself. Book jacket.

Baseball is a game built on the number nine. Nine innings of play. Nine fielding positions. Nine batters in a starting lineup. Now, America's favorite pastime can add another lucky number nine to the list. Nine indie authors bring you nine unique stories filled with romance and baseball. Get ready to round third base, slide into home and fall in love.

Can a young baseball star maintain his love of the game after the loss of his brother? Find out in this start to the Home Team series about a small town with high hopes, from New York Times bestselling author and sportswriting legend Mike Lupica. Jack Callahan is the star of his baseball team and seventh grade is supposed to be his year. Undefeated season. Records shattered. Little League World Series. The works. That is, until he up and quits. Jack's best friend Gus can't understand how Jack could leave a game that means more to them than anything else. But Jack is done. It's a year of change. Jack's brother has passed away, and though his family and friends and the whole town of Walton thinks baseball is just the thing he needs to move on, Jack feels it's anything but. In comes Cassie Bennett, star softball player, and the only person who seems to think Jack shouldn't play if he doesn't want to. As Jack and Cassie's friendship deepens, their circle expands to include Teddy, a guy who's been bullied because of his weight. Time spent with these new friends unlocks something within Jack, and with their help and the support of his family and his old friends, Jack discovers sometimes it's more than just the love of the game that keeps us moving forward—and he might just be able to find his way back to The Only Game, after all.

In this page-turning fiction book, Jacob's Little League team, Morey's Funeral Home, is a perennial loser. They have never finished with a winning record, but this ragtag team of ten-year-olds has a new coach and a positive attitude for opening day. Standing in the way of a championship is the best team in the league, the Bankees. Will Jacob lead his team to a winning season? To beat their nemesis, they will need help from everybody, including Rupa, the team's worst player. Can the underdog, Morey's Funeral Home team, make a mad dash to victory?

Gathers little-known facts about score-keeping, baseball cards, players, managers, teams, trades, nicknames, jargon, strategy, equipment, and records



A comprehensive trivia tour through baseball by the popular sports commentator presents the 150-year history of the sport in an encyclopedic format

A look at the national pastime offers photographs, interviews, cartoons, anecdotes, memorabilia, and previously unpublished stories and personal correspondence

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