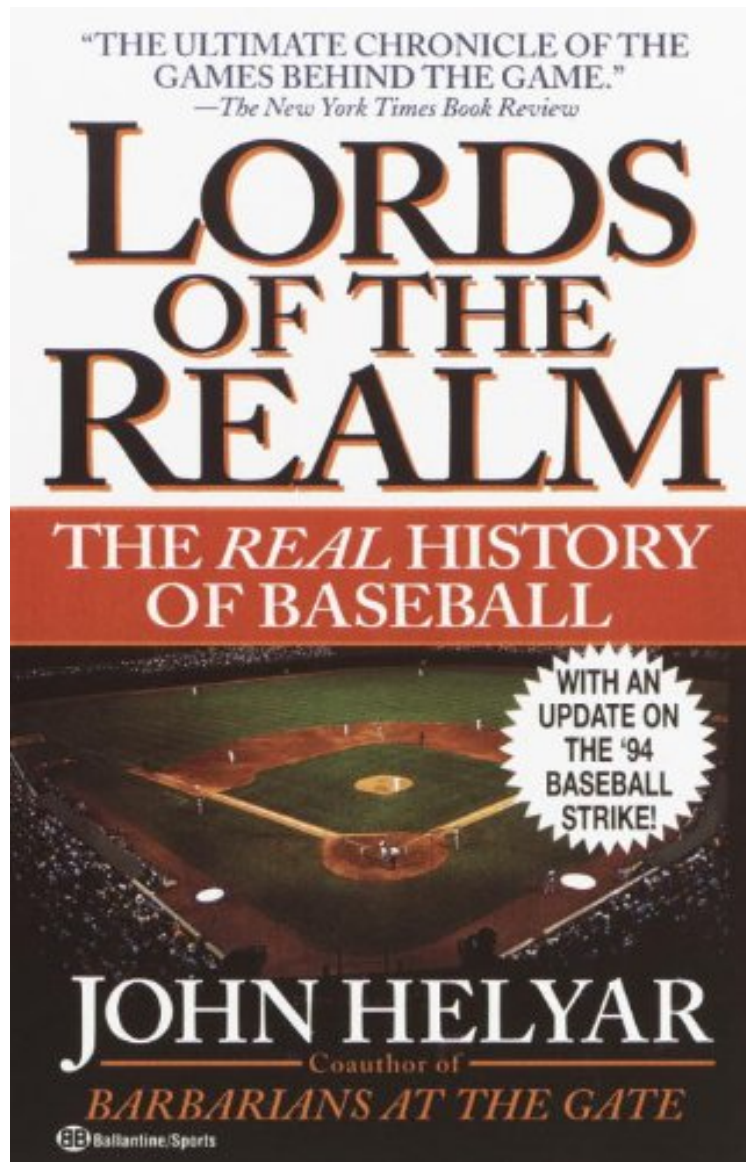


[Ebook free] The Lords of the Realm: The Real History of Baseball

The Lords of the Realm: The Real History of Baseball

John Helyar

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John Helyar : The Lords of the Realm: The Real History of Baseball before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lords of the Realm: The Real History of Baseball:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining ReadBy Khalil GibranHelyar's book dives into the long, tumultuous history of the business of baseball. He shows the evolution of the game from a sport completely dominated by the owners to a struggle between the owners and the labor union. Most chapters show an evolution from this standpoint, with a few asides about popular baseball issues during their time (i.e. the suspension of George Steinbrenner and Pete Rose). Lots of interesting tidbits can be found in this book, such as why Dodgers Stadium

serves only Miller beer products and how Catfish Hunter got his nickname. One downside is the book is slightly lengthy (over 600 pages), but a large majority of it is relevant, interesting, and easy to read. I strongly recommend this for any fan of baseball. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best Baseball Book By Henry Stokes I can't imagine a book that better documents the history of baseball. The book is extremely well researched and brings many events together to explain why Major League Baseball is where it is when the book ends in the early nineteen nineties. The only disappointment I had with the book is that it stops before one of the most significant and controversial events in Major League Baseball history, the 1993 lockout. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read By Frederick A. Ferris Anyone wanting to know what happened in the board rooms, this is the book. Baseball has survived in spite of itself!

"The ultimate chronicle of the games behind the game."mdash;The New York Times Book Review Baseball has always inspired rhapsodic elegies on the glory of man and golden memories of wonderful times. But what you see on the field is only half the game. In this fascinating, colorful chroniclemdash;based on hundreds of interviews and years of research and diggingmdash;John Helyar brings to vivid life the extraordinary people and dramatic events that shaped America's favorite pastime, from the dead-ball days at the turn of the century through the great strike of 1994. Witness zealous Judge Landis banish eight players, including Shoeless Joe Jackson, after the infamous "Black Sox" scandal; the flamboyant A's owner Charlie Finley wheel and deal his star players, Vida Blue and Rollie Fingers, like a deck of cards; the hysterical bidding war of coveted free agent Catfish Hunter; the chain-smoking romantic, A. Bartlett Giamatti, locking horns with Pete Rose during his gambling days of summer; and much more. Praise for *The Lords of the Realm* "A must-read for baseball fans . . . reads like a suspense novel."mdash;Kirkus Reviews "Refreshingly hard-headed . . . the only book you'll need to read on the subject."mdash;Newsday "Lots of stories . . . well told, amusing . . . edifying."mdash;The Washington Post

.com Wall Street Journal sports reporter (and *Barbarians at the Gate* co-author) John Helyar has produced an entertaining and concise look at the real reasons that Major League Baseball has become the big business that it is today--and a definitive glimpse at where America's erstwhile national pastime is likely to head in the coming years. With vividly painted portraits of significant players from Ty Cobb to Bud Selig, it offers both a current picture and an historical perspective that will prove invaluable to fans of the game as well as to students of business as the lords of the game continue to struggle with business problems that have forever altered their sport. From Publishers Weekly Helyar (*Barbarians at the Gate*) presents a history of player-owner labor relations that dissects baseball for the big-business it is. As background, he shows how the owners intimidated players into accepting low salaries and prohibited their movement through the reserve clause, which made the player the property of his team forever. The central character of the book is union organizer Marvin Miller. Helyar relates how Miller overcame anti-union feelings of the players, and how he succeeded in overturning the reserve clause with the cases of Catfish Hunter, Dave McNally and Andy Messersmith. He scored another win after the strike of 1981, when he hood-winked the baseball owners into salary arbitration, which grossly inflated salaries. We're shown the commissioners: pompous Bowie Kuhn; Peter Ueberroth and his disastrous "collusion" policies that caused the owners to pay millions of dollars in retribution to players for restricting their free movement; and Fay Vincent, whose tenure was soap-operish. This enlightening and provocative book may be too legalistic for the casual fan. Major ad/promo; author tour. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Helyar (coauthor with Bryan Burroughs of *Barbarians at the Gate*, LJ 1/90) develops the business history of baseball into one of the most entertaining sports books of the year. He deftly weaves the financial facts with in-depth and entrancing profiles of many major league owners. The author's treatment of such mavericks as Bill Veeck, Ted Turner, and Charlie Finley are captivating and insightful. The beginning chapters illustrate the sport's innocent age, when the players partook for the enjoyment of the game and the owners saw their athletes more as their children than as employees. Later chapters are devoted to the players' union movement and the owners' inability to act with restraint. Helyar's investigative skills make the book informative, while his sincere interest in the sport allows even the casual fan to read this work with great enjoyment. Highly recommended. Jeffrey Gay, Bridgewater P.L., Mass. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.