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Sports: Baseball, the Game, the Players, the History

Included are a variety of adult nonfiction books about baseball and its players, ranging from memoirs of players, managers, and coaches, baseball history, and little known facts about the game. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](#). Most titles can be [downloaded from BARD](#).

The Hall a Celebration of Baseball's Greats: in Stories and Images, the Complete Roster of Inductees by Hank Aaron

Read by Mark Comstock

20 hours, 1 minute

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum lists every inductee from the first class in 1936, which included Honus Wagner, Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Christy Mathewson, and Walter Johnson. Includes essays and player bios. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

[Download from BARD The Hall a Celebration of Baseball's Greats: in...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB079365

Imperfect, an Improbable Life by Jim Abbott

Read by Johnson, Peter

8 hours 45 minutes

Autobiography of professional baseball pitcher and 1988 Olympic gold-medal winner who was born without a right hand. Abbott discusses his blue-collar Flint, Michigan, childhood spent playing sports; his achievements in the major leagues, including a 1993 no-hitter for the New York Yankees; and his determination to reach the top. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Imperfect: an Improbably Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074896

Casey Stengel Baseball's Greatest Character by Martin Appel

Read by Marty Appel

15 hours, 20 minutes

A former PR director for the New York Yankees baseball team pens a biography of one of the team's most famous managers. Stengel (1890-1975) was a player, but is best known for managing the dominant Yankees from 1949 to 1960, as well as for his colorful way of speaking. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

[Download from BARD: Casey Stengel Baseball's Greatest Character](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087725

Munson: The Life and Death of a Yankee Captain by Marty Appel

Read by Robert Sams

12 hours 27 minutes

Biography of Ohio native and professional baseball catcher Thurman Munson (1947-1979). Chronicles Munson's 1968 draft from Kent State University to the New York Yankees, the team's success that led to winning the 1977 and 1978 World Series, and Munson's death in the crash of an airplane he was piloting. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Munson: the Life and Death of a Yankee Captain](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071037

Pinstripe Empire: the New York Yankees From Before the Babe to After the Boss by Martin Appel

Read by Barry Bernson

26 hours, 24 minutes

Sports commentator and former New York Yankees press director presents a year-by-year history of the team from its beginnings in 1903 to the death of George Steinbrenner in 2010. Discusses players, managers, owners, and stadiums. Foreword by Hall of Fame catcher Yogi Berra. 2012.

[Download from BARD: Pinstripe Empire: the New York Yankees From...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075552

Eight Men Out: the Black Sox and the 1919 World Series by Eliot Asinof

Read by Harold N. Cropp

11 hours, 29 minutes

History of the scandal that erupted in 1919 when eight Chicago White Sox baseball players agreed to throw the World Series. Chronicles the story from the conditions that led the players to make a deal with gamblers through the famous 1921 trial. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 1963.

[Download from BARD: Eight Men Out: the Black Sox and the 1919...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB095616

Yogi Berra Eternal Yankee by Allen Barra

Read by Jack Fox

19 hours, 12 minutes

Biography of New York Yankees catcher Lawrence "Yogi" Berra (born 1925 in St. Louis). Chronicles Berra's career, which began after he dropped out of school in eighth grade. Describes his 1946 signing by the Yankees and subsequent success, including five consecutive World Series and stints as manager and coach. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Yogi Berra Eternal Yankee](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069268

Haunted Baseball Ghosts, Curses, Legends, and Eerie Events by Mickey Bradley

Read by Jack Fox

8 hours 15 minutes

The authors--who spent a year and a half interviewing fans, professional players, managers, and clubhouse employees--present anecdotes about strange happenings in the world of baseball. Includes "The Ghosts of Yankee Stadium," "I See Dead People," and "Bedeviled." 2007.

[Download from BARD: Haunted Baseball Ghosts, Curses, Legends...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067877

The Corporal was a Pitcher the Courage of Lou Brissie by Ira Berkow

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

9 hours, 41 minutes

Details the heroism and determination of World War II G.I. Lou Brissie, who was wounded in Italy in December 1944. Recounts Brissie's refusal to allow his leg to be amputated despite major damage, his against-all-odds recovery, and his use of a leg brace to become a Philadelphia Athletics pitcher. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Corporal was a Pitcher the Courage of Lou...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069299

The Kid the Immortal Life of Ted Williams by Ben Bradlee

Read by Dave Mallow

35 hour, 16 minutes

Biography of Boston Red Sox slugger Ted Williams (1918-2002), often called the greatest hitter who ever lived. Details his childhood, baseball career, military service in World War II and Korea, relationships with Joe DiMaggio and other stars, retirement years, and the cryonic preservation of his body. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: The Kid the Immortal Life of Ted Williams](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB077753

The Kansas City Monarchs: Champions of Black Baseball by Janet Bruce

Read by Jake Williams

7 hours 24 minutes.

The development of "the great American pastime" as it related to the African-American population, and one team's place in that history. Young black men dreamed of playing for the Kansas City Monarchs or one of the other fifteen black teams in the "majors." From the Civil War until Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson in 1945, baseball was a segregated sport, and the Monarchs were the premier black team.

[Download from BARD: The Kansas City Monarchs: Champions of Black...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB031342

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR08351](#)

Also available in Braille BR008351

Change Up: An Oral History of 8 Key Events That Shaped Modern Baseball by Larry Burke

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

9 hours 59 minutes

Sportswriters discuss the changes that have occurred in baseball since the 1950s. Highlights the birth of the players' union, the American League's designated-hitter rule, the first African American manager, and the influx of Latin American players. Provides first-person commentaries from players, managers, reporters, and coaches. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Change Up: An Oral History of 8 Key Events...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067709

The Last Hero: A Life of Henry Aaron by Howard Bryant

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

22 hours 36 minutes

Biography of baseball legend Henry "Hank" Aaron (born 1934), who broke Babe Ruth's home-run record in 1974 while playing for the Atlanta Braves. Examines Aaron's childhood in segregated Mobile, Alabama; his 1954 debut with the Milwaukee Braves; and indignities he and other African American athletes endured. Some strong language.

[Download from BARD: The Last Hero: A Life of Henry Aaron](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB073047

Cooperstown Confidential: Heroes, Rogues, and the Inside Story of the Baseball Hall of Fame by Ze'ev Chafets

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

8 hours 23 minutes

Journalist chronicles the history of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, and alleges that politics affects the induction of players. Discusses the makeup of the selection committee and associated scandals and controversies. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Cooperstown Confidential: Heroes, Rogues, and...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070370

Ten Innings at Wrigley: the Wildest Ballgame Ever, with Baseball on the Brink by Kevin Cook

Read by Barry Abrams

7 hours, 40 minutes

A former Sports Illustrated editor looks at a dramatic baseball game in 1979 between the Philadelphia Phillies and the Chicago Cubs. The game went ten innings and the two teams racked up forty-five runs between them. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2019.

[Download from BARD: Ten Innings at Wrigley: the Wildest Ballgame...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB095375

Big Sticks: The Batting Revolution of the Twenties by William Curran

Read by Peter Johnson

10 hours 24 minutes

Sports statistician and free-lance writer Curran describes baseball's earlier era when there were no night games, no exploding scoreboards, no organ music--only the crack of the bat and the roar of the crowds. The 1920s saw baseball change from a defensive game to a hard-hitting offensive one in which batting averages skyrocketed and so did the fans' attendance.

[Download from BARD: Big Sticks: The Batting Revolution of the Twenties](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB032742

Forever Blue: The True Story of Walter O'Malley, Baseball's Most Controversial Owner, and the Dodgers of Brooklyn and Los Angeles by Michael D'Antonio

Read by Phil Gigante

12 hours 30 minutes

Biography of Walter O'Malley (1903-1979), owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team. Highlights O'Malley's rise from the club's lawyer to its owner and president. Discusses Jackie Robinson breaking the sport's racial barrier in 1947 and the Dodgers' controversial 1957 move to Los Angeles. Strong language. Commercial audiobook.

[Download from BARD: Forever Blue: The True Story of Walter O'Malley...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069035

108 Stitches: Loose Threads, Ripping Yarns, and the Darndest Characters from My Time in the Game by Ron Darling with Daniel Paisner

Read by Bill Delaney

8 hours, 12 minutes

A former pitcher with teams including the New York Mets who went on to a long career in broadcasting and writing about baseball shares stories from the game. Includes vignettes about some of the hundreds of players he encountered on and off the field. Some strong language. 2019.

[Download from BARD: 108 Stitches: Loose Threads, Ripping Yarns...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB095179

Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig by Jonathan Eig

Read by Jake Williams

15 hours 15 minutes

Reporter uses archives, interviews, and letters to depict the man he considers the New York Yankee's "greatest" first baseman, Lou Gehrig (1903-1941). Covers Gehrig's upbringing as the only child of German immigrants, his fallout with teammate Babe Ruth, and his optimism while facing death from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB061772

Fungoes, Floaters, and Fork Balls A Colorful Baseball Dictionary by Patrick Ercolano

Read by Phil Regensdorf

7 hours 21 minutes

Designed to help increase the baseball fan's enjoyment of the game, this dictionary explains more than 1,500 terms used by players, coaches, and announcers. The author defines such terms as banana stick, charity hop, early bloomer, hummer, lowdermilk, seagull, and whitewash and offers some historical information and baseball trivia.

[Download from BARD: Fungoes, Floaters, and Fork Balls A Colorful...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB028859

**Living on the Black: Two Pitchers, Two Teams, One Season to Remember
by John Feinstein**

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

17 hours, 14 minutes

Sportswriter chronicles the 2007 baseball season of two veteran pitchers--Mike Mussina of the New York Yankees and Tom Glavine of the New York Mets--as they try to reach the playoffs. Details the ways these players coped with their physical limitations and used their game knowledge to achieve personal milestones. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Living on the Black: Two Pitchers, Two Teams...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067213

Francona the Red Sox Years by Terry Francona

Read by Bill Burton

14 hours 45 minutes

Former Boston Red Sox manager Francona and Boston Globe sportswriter Shaughnessy describe Francona's tenure with the baseball franchise from 2004-2011, which included two World Series championships. Reveals backroom discussions with young general manager Theo Epstein, who hired players for sex appeal. Strong language. Bestseller. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Francona the Red Sox Years](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076216

Doc a Memoir by Dwight Gooden

Read by J.D Jackson

9 hours, 54 minutes

Autobiography of Cy Young Award winner Dwight "Doc" Gooden, who pitched for the New York Mets between 1984 and 1994. Discusses his childhood in Tampa, Florida; arrival in New York at age nineteen; and his substance abuse and attempts at recovery. Strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Doc a Memoir](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076910

Diz: Dizzy Dean and Baseball During the Great Depression by Robert Gregory

Read by Robert Sams

15 hours 49 minutes

Biography of a legendary baseball player who pitched for the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1930s. Although his career was short and ended abruptly following an arm injury, his thirty-game win in one season ensured his lasting fame. When Dizzy moved over to the announcer's box, his corny jokes, irreverence, and fractured English perpetuated the popularity begun on the mound. Strong language.

[Download from BARD: Diz: Dizzy Dean and Baseball During the Great...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB035453

Beyond Belief Finding the Strength to Come Back by Josh Hamilton

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

7 hours, 24 minutes

Autobiography of an All-Star outfielder for the Texas Rangers. Hamilton describes being first choice in the 1999 baseball draft as a high school senior. Details his time in the minor leagues and discusses the cocaine addiction that jeopardized his life until a spiritual redemption in 2005 saved him. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Beyond Belief Finding the Strength to Come Back](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068489

Tigerland1968-1969: a City Divided, a Nation Torn Apart, and a Magical Season of Healing by Wil Haygood

Read by Dominic Hoffman

16 hours, 11 minutes

Account of the 1968 and 1969 championship baseball and basketball teams from segregated East High School in Columbus, Ohio, who beat bigger, richer, majority-white schools from all across the state. Presents the personal stories of those involved in the context of the racially charged times. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2018.

[Download from BARD: Tigerland1968-1969: a City Divided, a Nation...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB93790

42 Faith the Rest of the Jackie Robinson Story by Ed Henry

Read by Joe Wilson

13 hours, 5 minutes

Journalist delves into the faith of Jackie Robinson (1919-1972), the player who broke baseball's racial barrier. Uses sermons, interviews, and an unpublished manuscript by Robinson to explore the importance of the Christian faith to Robinson during his playing career and after it. Also covers the faith of Dodgers manager Branch Rickey. 2017.

[Download from BARD: 42 Faith the Rest of the Jackie Robinson Story](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB088286

Willie Mays: The Life, the Legend by James S. Hirsch

Read by Patrick Downer

31 hours 37 minutes.

Authorized biography of baseball outfielder Willie Mays, born in 1931 Alabama. Follows Mays from the Negro Leagues to the New York Mets. Highlights Mays's best games, including his astonishing catch when playing for the Giants in the 1954 World Series. Discusses his personal life and baseball's racial integration. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Willie Mays: The Life, the Legend](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070896

Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the Story of African-American Baseball by Lawrence D. Hogan

Read by Patrick Downer

21 hours 11 minutes

Chronicles African American baseball from the nineteenth century until Jackie Robinson broke into the major leagues in 1945. Uses first-person accounts to profile the teams and players. Covers the business aspects of the league. Commissioned by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Foreword by Jules Tygiel. 2006.

[Download from BARD: Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067203

Jeter Unfiltered by Derek Jeter

Read by Jason Culp

1 hour, 28 minutes

Collection of reminiscences from former New York Yankee. Discusses teammates, professional relationships, memorable games, turning forty while still an active player, what it meant to him to be repeatedly selected as an all-star, and hopes for the future. Bestseller. 2014.

[Download from BARD: Jeter Unfiltered](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB080644

The Boys of Summer by Roger Kahn

Read by Bill Wamsley

15 hours 43 minutes

A former sportswriter for the 'Herald Tribune' writes about the Brooklyn Dodgers of Ebbets Field. He also tells what happened to Jackie Robinson, Carl Erskine, Pee Wee Reese, Preacher Roe, and the other baseball greats of the team. 1972.

[Download from BARD: The Boys of Summer](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB016430

I'm Fascinated by Sacrifice Flies Inside the Game We All Love by Tim Kurkjian

Read by Jake Williams

8 hours, 32 minutes

ESPN baseball commentator discusses some of his favorite aspects of the national pastime. He shares quirky statistics, player superstitions, what it's like to be hit by a pitch, and various anecdotes from his years following the sport. Some strong language. 2016.

[Download from BARD: I'm Fascinated by Sacrifice Flies Inside the ...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB089254

One Last Strike: Fifty Years in Baseball, Ten and a Half Games Back, and One Final Championship Season by Tony La Russa

Read by Patrick Downer

15 hours, 33 minutes

Autobiography of major league baseball manager who, for thirty-three seasons, coached the Chicago White Sox, Oakland A's, and St. Louis Cardinals.

Highlights the St. Louis Cardinals' comeback to win the 2011 World Series.

Foreword by novelist John Grisham. 2012.

[Download from BARD: One Last Strike: Fifty Years in Baseball, Ten...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075688

The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America's Childhood by Jane Leavy

Read by Mary Kane

17 hours 3 minutes

The author of *Sandy Koufax* (DB/RC 54935) details twenty pivotal days in the life of New York Yankees slugger Mickey Mantle (1931-1995). Includes her own 1983 interview with "The Mick" and reminiscences of five hundred others to portray Mantle's remarkable talent and personal demons. Strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071990

Ty Cobb a Terrible Beauty by Charles Leerhsen

Read by Barry Bernson

16 hours, 21 minutes

Detroit Tigers outfielder Tyrus Raymond "Ty" Cobb (1886-1961) is considered one of the greatest hitters in baseball, but he is just as well-known for his temper and bad behavior. This biography leverages primary documents and first-hand accounts to reevaluate Cobb. Some strong language. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Ty Cobb a Terrible Beauty](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB086340

1954 the Year Willie Mays and the First Generation of Black Superstars Changed Major League Baseball Forever by Bill Madden

Read by David Drummond

8 hours, 57 minutes

Although Jackie Robinson officially broke baseball's color barrier in 1947, sportswriter Madden dates the true integration of the game to 1954. That was the year players like Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, and Ernie Banks took center stage and changed baseball. Some strong language. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

[Download from BARD: 1954 the Year Willie Mays and the First...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081875

Steinbrenner the Last Lion of Baseball by Bill Madden

Read by Gregory Gorton

16 hours 43 minutes

Biography of New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner (1930-2010). Chronicles Steinbrenner's early life and career as a shipping magnate, his purchase of the Yankees in 1973, his legal troubles, his controversial hiring and firing of multiple managers, and the team's ups and downs. Strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Steinbrenner the Last Lion of Baseball](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071410

Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball's Last Hero by David Maraniss

Read by Jonathan Davis

16 hours 33 minutes

Biography of the Pittsburgh Pirates' right fielder Roberto Clemente (1934-1972), one of the major league's first Latino players. Details Clemente's upbringing in Puerto Rico, his arrival to the majors, and the prejudice he endured. Discusses his charitable works and his death on a disaster relief flight. Strong language. Bestseller. 2006.

[Download from BARD: Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball's](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB062447

Yankee for Life: My 40-Year Journey in Pinstripes by Bobby Murcer

Read by Jim Zeiger

11 hours 28 minutes

Autobiography of Bobby Murcer, who joined the New York Yankees in 1965 as a nineteen-year-old shortstop. Describes his 1975 trade to the Giants, later trade to the Cubs, and 1979 return to the Yankees having missed winning two World Series. Discusses his broadcasting career and battle with brain cancer. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Yankee for Life: My 40-Year Journey in...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067415

The Big Bam: The Life and Times of Babe Ruth by Leigh Montville

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

15 hours 39 minutes

The author uses archives and oral history to pen a biography of professional baseball player Babe Ruth (1895-1948). Chronicles his bleak Baltimore childhood, his success with the Boston Red Sox, and his career with the New York Yankees. Also details his scandalous private life. Strong language. 2006.

[Download from BARD: The Big Bam: The Life and Times of Babe Ruth](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB063325

The Captain the Journey of Derek Jeter by Ian O'Connor

Read by Alec Volz

17 hours 20 minutes

Biography of New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter (born 1974) chronicles his childhood in Kalamazoo, Michigan; his 1995 major-league debut; and his career highlights, which include five World Series rings and five Gold Glove awards. Also recaps Jeter's contentious late-2010 contract negotiations. Some strong language. 2011.

[Download from BARD: The Captain the Journey of Derek Jeter](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074217

Big Papi: My Story of Big Dreams and Big Hits by David Ortiz

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

8 hours 9 minutes

Autobiography of baseball player David "Big Papi" Ortiz, who helped the Boston Red Sox break the "curse of the bambino" by winning the 2004 World Series. Ortiz recalls his childhood in the Dominican Republic and discusses his career with the Seattle Mariners, the Minnesota Twins, and the Red Sox. 2007.

[Download from BARD: Big Papi: My Story of Big Dreams and Big Hits](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB064968

The Devil's Snake Curve a Fan's Notes From Left Field by Josh Ostergaard

Read by David Hartley-Margolin

8 hours, 25 minutes

Anthropologist shares anecdotes and stories of baseball's history, from its founding in the mid-1800s to the early twenty-first century, framing them in the context of social and political history. Presents similarities between the sport and war and nationalism. Strong language. 2014.

[Download from BARD: The Devil's Snake Curve a Fan's Notes From ...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB079663

The Arm Inside the Billion-Dollar Mystery of the Most Valuable Commodity in Sports by Jeff Passan

Read by Joe Wilson

15 hours, 25 minutes

A baseball journalist looks at the epidemic of injuries that baseball pitchers experience with their throwing arms. Examines the importance to major league baseball teams of keeping their most expensive players healthy, and follows two professional pitchers trying to return to the game after surgery. Some strong language. 2016.

[Download from BARD: The Arm Inside the Billion-Dollar Mystery of ...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087381

The Game Inside the Secret World of Major League Baseball's Power Brokers by Jon Pessah

Read by Jeremy Arthur

20 hours, 22 minutes

Focusing on the owners and officials rather than the superstar players, ESPN founding editor Pessah examines the world of baseball during the era of commissioner Bud Selig, 1992 to 2015. Labor disputes, steroid scandals, and boardroom battles are covered. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2015.

[Download from BARD: The Game Inside the Secret World of Major...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082022

Only the Ball Was White: A History of Legendary Black Players and All-Black Professional Teams by Robert Peterson

Read by Patrick Downer

22 hours 40 minutes

Chronicles the development of African American baseball leagues from the post-Civil War era to Jackie Robinson's 1947 desegregation of the major leagues. Draws on firsthand accounts and player interviews to describe early team formation, league organization, and the move toward racial integration. Profiles players and includes standings and rosters. 1970.

[Download from BARD: Only the Ball was White: A History of Legendary...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067568

Long Shot by Mike Piazza

Read by John Haag

16 hours, 53 minutes

Autobiography of all-star baseball catcher Piazza, who was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1988--thanks to family friend and Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda--and unexpectedly became the 1993 Rookie of the Year. Discusses his career, including trades to the Marlins and the Mets; fellow players; and controversies. Strong language. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Long Shot](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB076338

The Echoing Green: The Untold Story of Bobby Thomson, Ralph Branca, and the Shot Heard Round the World by Joshua Prager

Read by John Polk

23 hours 16 minutes

Journalist recounts what he calls the greatest home run in baseball history--when New York Giants Bobby Thomson hit a homer against Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher Ralph Branca to win the 1951 National League pennant. Highlights the Giants' use of a telescope to observe the Dodgers' signals. Some strong language. 2006.

[Download from BARD: The Echoing Green: The Untold Story of Bobby...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB064393

A-Rod: The Many Lives of Alex Rodriguez by Selena Roberts

Read by Carol Dines

9 hours 26 minutes

Biography of Alex Rodriguez, the highest-paid player in the history of baseball. Sports Illustrated writer expands on her expose of Rodriguez's use of steroids--tracing substance abuse since his high school days in Miami. Details Rodriguez's personal and professional life, including his divorce and dedication to Kabbalah. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: A-Rod: The Many Lives of Alex Rodriguez](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069287

Extra Innings by Frank Robinson

Read by Earle Hyman

12 hours 43 minutes

Former baseball slugger Frank Robinson, the first black manager in the majors, tells the story of his life in baseball. Blends anecdotes with comments on some of the game's more serious issues. Robinson claims club owners fail to hire blacks as managers, alleging they are incompetent, while year after year playing a game of musical managers with proven losers.

[Download from BARD: Extra Innings](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB028696

I Never Had It Made: An Autobiography of Jackie Robinson by Jackie Robinson

Read by Mark Ashby

9 hours 7 minutes

Baseball legend's account of his triumphs and tragedies on the road to becoming the first African American to play major league baseball. Descended from slaves and sharecroppers, Robinson recalls struggling to overcome racial barriers before and after his 1947 debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Introduction by Hank Aaron. 1995.

[Download from BARD: I Never Had It Made: an Autobiography of Jackie...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB058600

American Jews & America's Game Voices of a Growing Legacy in Baseball by Larry Ruttman

Read by J. P. Linton

21 hours, 57 minutes

Traces the Jewish influence on America's pastime, from legendary stars like Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax to owners, coaches, and lesser-known players. Explores Jewish identity and appreciation for the game with fans such as former congressman Barney Frank and lawyer Alan Dershowitz. Foreword by baseball commissioner Allan "Bud" Selig. 2013.

[Download from BARD: American Jews & America's Game Voices of...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB078674

A Talk in the Park: Nine Decades of Baseball Tales from the Broadcast Booth by Curt Smith

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

12 hours, 41 minutes

Oral history from one hundred sixteen baseball announcers whose careers spanned from the 1920s radio coverage and the 1930s first television broadcasts to the cable-television coverage of the 2000s. Includes commentaries on ballparks, players, managers, and improvements to the game. 2011.

[Download from BARD: A Talk in Park: Nine Decades of Baseball Tales...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074562

Beyond the Shadow of the Senators: The Untold Story of the Homestead Grays and the Integration of Baseball by Brad Snyder

Read by Alec Volz

16 hours, 37 minutes

Explores the cultural impact of the 1940 move of the Homestead Grays, a storied Negro League baseball team, from Pittsburgh to segregated Washington, D.C. Recounts how Grays owner Cum Posey rented--and filled--the Washington Senators' stadium. Highlights the role of black journalist Sam Lacey in confronting racism. 2003.

[Download from BARD: Beyond the Shadow of the Senators: The Untold...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072888

Straw: Finding My Way by Darryl Strawberry

Read by Bob Moore

8 hours 31 minutes

Autobiography of former all-star baseball pitcher drafted to the New York Mets in 1980 after graduating from Los Angeles sports-powerhouse Crenshaw High. Recovering addict Strawberry describes his rise to fame and his substance abuse, trouble with the law, and cancer. Credits his turnaround to a newfound faith in God. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Straw: Finding My Way](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069188

The Grind Inside Baseball's Endless Season by Barry Svrluga

Read by David Rutherford

4 hours 39 minutes

Assembled and expanded from a series of articles written for the Washington Post about the Nationals baseball team. Examines the challenges players face due to the lengthy baseball season, which, at 162 regular games, is longer than any other American professional sport. 2015

[Download from BARD: The Grind Inside Baseball's Endless Season](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB082814

The Yankee Years by Joe Torre

Read by Robert Sams

18 hours, 2 minutes

Torre's take on managing baseball's New York Yankees from 1996-2007, achieving six American League pennants and four World Series championships. Torre describes crucial games, steroid abuse, his relationships with superstars Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez, and disagreements with owner George Steinbrenner and the front office. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The Yankee Years](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068610

Satchel the Life and Times of an American Legend by Larry Tye

Read by Erik Synnестvedt

14 hours, 14 minutes

Author of *Rising from the Rails* (RC 59817) portrays the personality and career of Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher Satchel Paige (1906-1982). Chronicles Paige's time in the Negro leagues, his 1948 signing to the major league Cleveland Indians, and the prevailing racial segregation in America. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Satchel the Life and Times of an American Legend](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069547

The First Fall Classic: The Red Sox, the Giants, and the Cast of Players, Pugs, and Politicos who Reinvented the World Series in 1912 by Mike Vaccaro

Read by Don Hagen

11 hours, 36 minutes

Sports columnist for the New York Post recreates the 1912 World Series between the Boston Red Sox and the New York Giants. Describes the climate of the times, which included an attempted assassination on presidential candidate Theodore Roosevelt. Some strong language. 2009.

[Download from BARD: The First Fall Classic: The Red Sox, the Giants...](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070840

Stan Musial an American life by George Vecsey

Read by Erik Synnestvedt

12 hours, 48 minutes

New York Times sports columnist chronicles the life and career of St. Louis Cardinals slugger and Hall of Famer Stan Musial (born 1920). Highlights "Stan the Man's" Donora, Pennsylvania, childhood and his on-field success despite being overshadowed in the media by his flamboyant contemporaries Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Stan Musial an American Life](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB075337

Veeck--As in Wreck: The Autobiography of Bill Veeck by Bill Veeck

Read by Butch Hoover

17 hours 52 minutes

Reminiscences of a baseball-team owner and operator. Humorous account of Veeck's love affair with the game during a lifetime devoted to it. Covers his involvement with the Cleveland Indians, the St. Louis Browns, and the Chicago White Sox. 1962.

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The Victory Season the End of World War II and the Birth of Baseball's Golden Age by Robert Weintraub

Read by Bill Burton

18 hours, 48 minutes

The Second World War had a big impact on Major League Baseball, with most of its famous players serving in the armed forces. A sportswriter looks at the 1946 season and baseball's resurgence after the war. 2013

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Fastpitch the Untold History of Softball and the Women Who Made the Game by Erica Westly

Read by Laura Adducci

10 hours, 45 minutes

A journalist chronicles the game of softball, including its origins in late nineteenth-century Chicago, the growth of the fastpitch version starting in the 1930s, and its distinction as one of the only team sports women were allowed to play competitively. Profiles many of the stars of the game. 2016.

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The Bird the Life and Legacy of Mark Fidrych by Doug Wilson

Read by Patrick Downer

10 hours, 9 minutes

Biography of baseball pitching phenomenon Mark "The Bird" Fidrych (1954-2009), nicknamed after Sesame Street's Big Bird. Highlights Fidrych's 1976 rookie season with the Detroit Tigers and the injuries that ended his career. Discusses his later life in his home state of Massachusetts, where he drove a truck for hire. 2013.

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