



Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life In the Minor Leagues of Baseball

By John Feinstein

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From the acclaimed #1 bestselling author . . . a riveting journey through the world of minor-league baseball

“No one grows up playing baseball pretending that they’re pitching or hitting in Triple-A.” —Chris Schwinden, Triple-A pitcher

“If you don’t like it here, do a better job.” —Ron Johnson, Triple-A manager

John Feinstein gave readers an unprecedented view of the PGA Tour in *A Good Walk Spoiled*. He opened the door to an NCAA basketball locker room in his explosive bestseller *A Season on the Brink*. Now, turning his eye to our national pastime, sports journalist John Feinstein explores the colorful and mysterious world of minor-league baseball—a gateway through which all major-league players pass in their careers . . . hoping never to return.

Baseball’s minor leagues are a paradox. For some players, the minors are a glorious launching pad toward years of fame and fortune; for others, a crash-landing pad when injury or poor play forces a big leaguer back to a life of obscure ballparks and cramped buses instead of Fenway Park and plush charter planes. Focusing exclusively on the Triple-A level, one step beneath Major League Baseball, Feinstein introduces readers to nine unique men: three pitchers, three position players, two managers, and an umpire. Through their compelling stories, Feinstein pulls back the veil on a league that is chock-full of gifted baseball players, managers, and umpires who are all one moment away from getting called up—or back—to the majors.

The stories are hard to believe: a first-round draft pick and pitching ace who rocketed to major-league success before finding himself suddenly out of the game, hatching a presumptuous plan to get one more shot at the mound; a home run-hitting former World Series hero who lived the dream, then bounced among six teams before facing the prospects of an unceremonious end to his career; a big-league All-Star who, in the span of five months, went from being completely out of baseball to becoming a star in the ALDS, then signing a \$10 million contract; and a well-liked designated hitter who toiled for eighteen seasons in the

minors—a record he never wanted to set—before facing his final, highly emotional chance for a call-up to the big leagues.

From Raleigh to Pawtucket, from Lehigh Valley to Indianapolis and beyond, *Where Nobody Knows Your Name* gives readers an intimate look at a baseball world not normally seen by the fans. John Feinstein gets to the heart of the human stories in a uniquely compelling way, crafting a masterful book that stands alongside his very best works.

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Editorial Review

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The prolific and best-selling Feinstein here spends a year (the 2012 season) with the players and managers (and others) of the Triple A International League, the apex of minor-league baseball. But, as Feinstein makes clear both explicitly and with the telling detail and quote, it is a wholly different culture and a long way from the majors, which remains the dream of all participants—newcomers, those who have made it there previously (in a few cases as stars), and those who, in the course of a season, make the trip up and back, sometimes with astounding frequency. It is a frustrating experience, far from luxurious, and there is a sameness and a sadness to the individual lives. They are rivals rather than pals, all looking to go up, and the primary function of the teams is player development more than winning. As Feinstein's focus is on a cross section of the league, including the Durham Bulls and the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, rather than on a particular team, the book lacks the drama of, say, a pennant race. Like the players, Feinstein's account has its ups and downs, but it is sure to interest true fans of the game. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Feinstein gets a level of marketing support and media attention unknown to most authors of sports books; his latest will be no exception. --Mark Levine

Review

“[T]errific...[R]eading this book will make you fall in love with baseball all over again.”—*The Denver Post*

“One of the best sportswriters alive.”—*USA Today*

“Feinstein's work, like that of the best American sportswriters, is richly detailed and emotionally articulate...Feinstein's storytelling is compelling, his understanding of the structural cruelties and emotional consequences of winner-takes-all competition acute.”—*The Guardian* (UK)

“Feinstein takes readers down the dusty roads of minor league baseball with a vivid look at the players dreaming of a shot at the big leagues.”

—*Parade*

“John Feinstein, one of our best-known sportswriters, explores...baseball's International League, one of the two AAA leagues, just below the majors....With many of us counting down to opening day, this is a fitting time for a book whose subtitle might well be ‘hope springs eternal — every spring.’”

—*The Washington Post*

“[P]oignant ... [2013] marked the 25th anniversary of ‘Bull Durham,’ and I'm pretty sure a lot of people still think that's how things go in the minors. Mr. Feinstein clears the perspective on the realities of minor-league life so that the reader can move on from Nuke LaLoosh imagery. And for the average baseball fan, this is no minor accomplishment.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*

About the Author

John Feinstein is a columnist for *The Washington Post*, *Golf World* and *Golf Digest*. He also hosts a daily radio show on the CBS Sports Radio Network, is a contributor to the Golf Channel, and is an essayist for

CBS Sports Television.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robin Martz:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or read a book called Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life In the Minor Leagues of Baseball? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have additional opinion?

Maureen Bonds:

As people who live in typically the modest era should be upgrade about what going on or info even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era which is always change and progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to you is you don't know what kind you should start with. This Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life In the Minor Leagues of Baseball is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Robert Collado:

The book untitled Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life In the Minor Leagues of Baseball contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains your ex idea with easy way. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was written by famous author. The author provides you in the new era of literary works. You can read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open their official web-site and also order it. Have a nice read.

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