



Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life in the Minor Leagues of Baseball (Anchor Sports)

By John Feinstein

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Minor league baseball is quintessentially American: small towns, small stadiums, \$5 tickets, \$2 hot dogs, the never-ending possibility of making it big. But looming above it all is always the real deal: Major League Baseball. John Feinstein takes the reader behind the curtain into the guarded world of the minor leagues, like no other writer can. *Where Nobody Knows Your Name* explores the trials and travails of the inhabitants of Triple-A, focusing on nine men, including players, managers and umpires, among many colorful characters, living on the cusp of the dream. The book tells the stories of former World Series hero Scott Podsednik, giving it one more shot; Durham Bulls manager Charlie Montoya, shepherding generations across the line; and designated hitter Jon Lindsey, a lifelong minor leaguer, waiting for his day to come. From Raleigh to Pawtucket, from Lehigh Valley to Indianapolis and beyond, this is an intimate and exciting look at life in the minor leagues, where you're either waiting for the call or just passing through.

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Where Nobody Knows Your Name: Life in the Minor Leagues of Baseball (Anchor Sports)

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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 the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the classics sports books *A Season on the Brink* and *A Good Walk Spoiled*, along with many other bestsellers. His first YA mystery, *Last Shot*, won

The Edgar Allen Poe Award for mystery writing. He is a member of Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and The National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame. He is also a columnist for *The Washington Post*, *Golf World*, and *Golf Digest*. He is a contributor to the Golf Channel, and is an essayist for CBS Sports Television.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Linda Young:

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