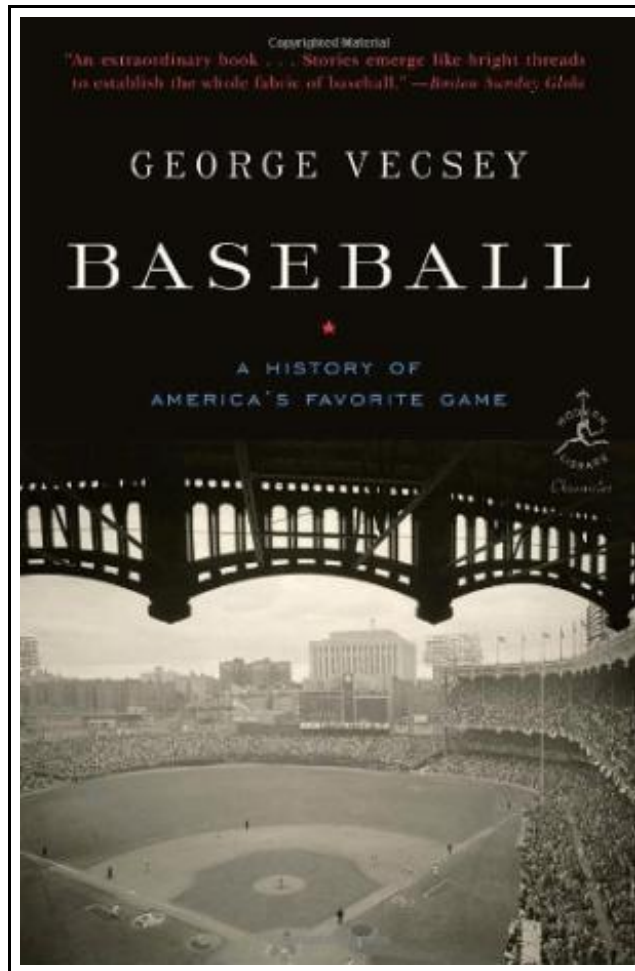


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Modern Library. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. Dimensions: 7.9in. x 5.1in. x 0.7in. Football is force and fanatics, basketball is beauty and bounce. Baseball is everything: action, grace, the seasons of our lives. George Vecseys book proves it, without wasting a word. Lee Eisenberg, author of *The Number In Baseball*, one of the great bards of Americas Grand Old Game gives a rousing account of the sport, from its pre-Republic roots to the present day. George Vecsey casts a fresh eye on the game, illuminates its foibles and triumphs, and performs a marvelous feat: making a classic story seem refreshingly new. Baseball is a narrative of Americas can-do spirit, in which stalwart immigrants such as Henry Chadwick could transplant cricket and rounders into the fertile American culture and in which die-hard unionist baseballers such as Charles Comiskey and Connie Mack could eventually become the tightfisted avatars of the games big-money establishment. Its a celebration of such underdogs as a rag-armed catcher turned owner named Branch Rickey and a sure-handed fielder named Curt Flood, both of whom flourished as true great men of history. But most of all, Baseball is a testament to the unbreakable bond between our nations pastime and the fans, whove remained loyal through the fifty-year-long interdict on black athletes, the Black Sox scandal, franchise relocation, and the use of performance-enhancing drugs by some major stars. Reverent, playful, and filled with Vecseys charm, Baseball begs to be read in the span of a rain-delayed doubleheader, and so enjoyable that, like a favorite teams championship run, one hopes it never ends. Vecsey possesses a journalists eye for detail and a historians feel for the sweep of action. His research is scrupulous and his writing crisp. This book is an instant classic a highly readable guide to Americas great enduring...

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