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Distant Diamonds

Celebrating African American and Negro Leagues Baseball

For review copies or to interview any of our authors, please contact Tina Koenig, tina@tinakoenig.com or info@summergamebooks.com

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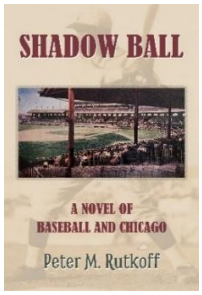
SHADOW BALL: A Novel of Baseball and Chicago, by Peter M. Rutkoff



Baseball titans Charles Comiskey and Andrew "Rube" Foster scheme to shock baseball by adding black ball superstar Pop Lloyd to the 1919 White Sox. Racial tensions are building to what will explode into the Chicago Race Riots and the Black Sox scandal lurks around the corner. Elegant prose, rich historical detail, and vibrant characterizations make *Shadow Ball* stay with readers long after they are done reading it.

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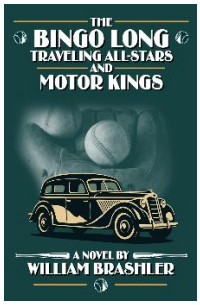
Coming in July 2025

THE BINGO LONG TRAVELING ALL-STARS AND MOTOR KINGS, by William Brashler



The novel that spawned the classic baseball film is a funny, touching, and at times searing story of a barnstorming team's adventures on and off the field in 1930s America. Based on the author's numerous interviews with former Negro Leagues players. Far grittier than the hit 1970s movie, Bingo Long the novel puts you in the back seat of the big old Lincoln on the dusty roads of the Midwest, face-to-face with a country where systemic racism is a way of life.

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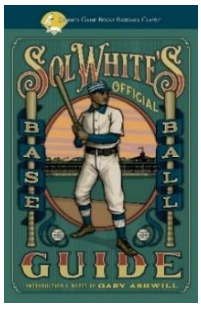
SOL WHITE'S OFFICIAL BASE BALL GUIDE, by Solomon White, Introduction by Gary Ashwill



In 1908, Sol White – a star second baseman - had the visionary idea to create a "Spalding Guide" for African American baseball. Without the seminal Sol White Guide, much of the history of this era would be lost. Includes 61 photos, extensive statistics and box scores, profiles of all the top players, and an extensive introduction by award-winning baseball historian Gary Ashwill.

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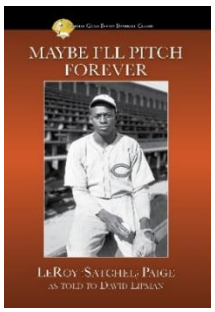
MAYBE I'LL PITCH FOREVER, by LeRoy Satchel Paige, as told to Walter Lipman



Satchel Paige is boastful, funny, and surprisingly introspective and honest in one of the first truly great baseball memoirs. Paige takes readers through the many amazing ups and heart-wrenching downs of his unique life and incomparable career. No writer could ever fully capture the magic and magnitude of this baseball immortal – other than perhaps the immortal himself.

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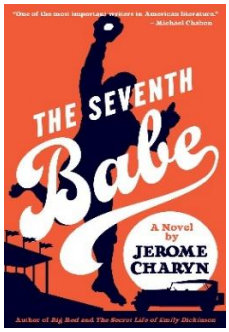
THE SEVENTH BABE, A Novel by Jerome Charyn



Babe Ragland bows to no one, not even Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, who boots him off the 1925 Red Sox and out of baseball. But Ragland's passion for the game and the genius abandon with which he plays land him on a team of barnstorming African Americans, where he plays through the 1920s, 30s, and beyond. Magical reality meets black baseball in this brilliantly imagined and beautifully written novel by one of America's great contemporary authors.

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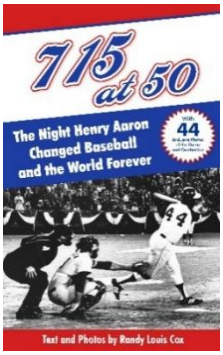
Also Available

715 AT 50: The Night Henry Aaron Changed Baseball and the World Forever, by Randy Louis Cox



Get a front row seat to the night Henry Aaron set the new all-time home run record, with a reporter/photographer who saw history unfold less than 60 feet away. Includes 44 photographs from that night, many previously unpublished. Supplemented by chapters highlighting the amazing career and life of a genuine hero, whose impact on baseball and American culture is comparable with Jackie Robinson's.

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