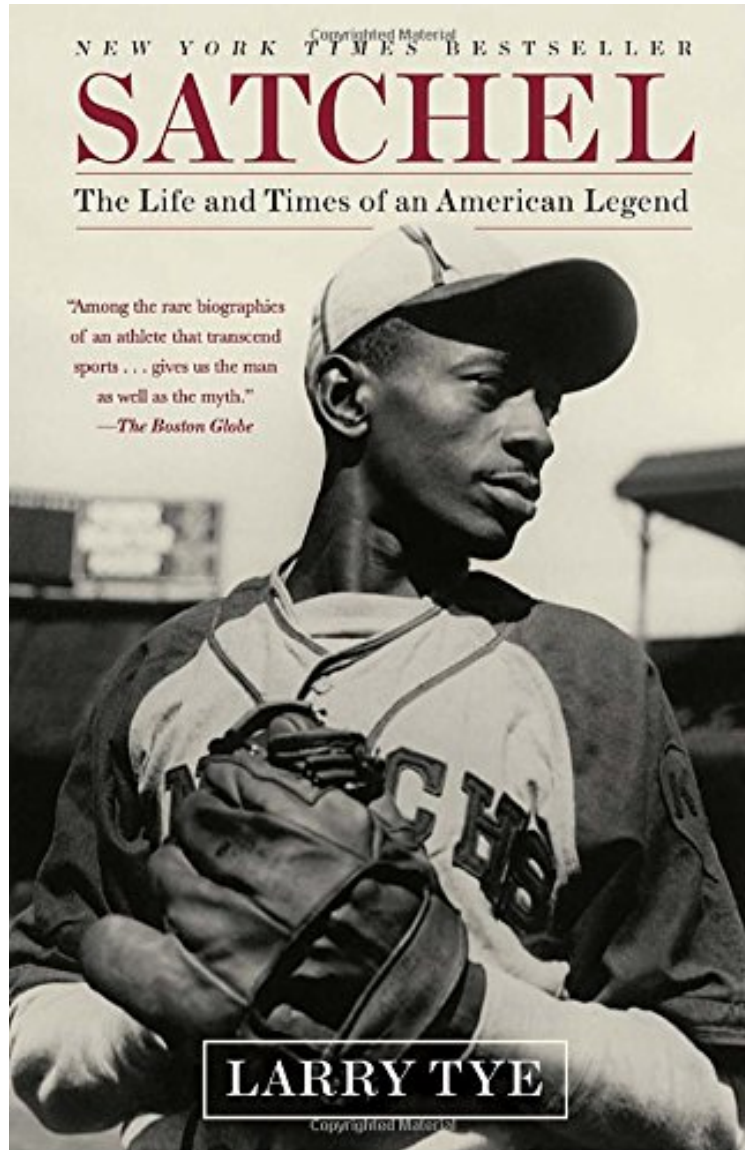


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Satchel: The Life and Times of an American Legend

Larry Tye

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Larry Tye : Satchel: The Life and Times of an American Legend before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Satchel: The Life and Times of an American Legend:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A close look at a legendBy benhatIn the eyes of many people, Satchel Paige is more legend than he is reality. Never getting the chance to pitch in the major leagues until he was well past his prime, his greatness cannot truly be measured in terms of major league success. This book does a good job of helping to shed light on Paige's life. A great deal of his greatness is not officially documented, and more based on

stories (which he played a large role in creating). He was a great pitcher, but it is a shame that we will never really know how great he actually could have been. Larry Tye does a very good job of bringing the legend of Paige to life, and for anyone interested in learning about this enigmatic figure of history, this book is a great way to educate yourself. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Most of American sport fans were cheated by not being able to witness in person the accomplishments of one of America's greatest. By Customer Tough times and inhumane treatment of Black ball players are well documented in this book on Satchel Paige. Most of American sport fans were cheated by not being able to witness in person the accomplishments of one of America's greatest pitchers to ever play professional baseball. Satchel Paige played in the Black professional league when he was in his prime and his greatness was witnessed by small crowds and ball fields that were not up to professional standards. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Satchel-One of a Kind By James W. Thanos I thought the book was well written and well researched. The author really gave you insight and a feeling for the times that Satchel Paige not only grew up in but what he experienced in his long career. So many of the great Negro players did not make it to the Major Leagues but the book pointed out who they were and what their accomplishments were like. The really were playing for the love of the game.

He is that rare American icon who has never been captured in a biography worthy of him. Now, at last, here is the superbly researched, spellbindingly told story of athlete, showman, philosopher, and boundary breaker Leroy Satchel Paige. Through dogged research and extensive interviews, award-winning author and journalist Larry Tye has tracked down the truth about this majestic and enigmatic pitcher. Here is the stirring account of the child born to a poor Alabama washerwoman, the boy who earned his nickname from his enterprising work as a railroad porter, and the young man who took up baseball on the streets and in reform school before becoming the superstar hurler of the Negro Leagues. In unprecedented detail, Tye reveals how Paige, hurt and angry when Jackie Robinson beat him in breaking the Majors color barrier, emerged at the improbable age of forty-two to help propel the Cleveland Indians to the World Series. (Age is a case of mind over matter, he said. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.) Rewriting our history of baseball's integration with Paige in the starring role and separating truth from legend, Satchel is a story as large as this larger-than-life man.

From Publishers Weekly Tye, a Boston Globe reporter and author of *The Father of Spin*, offers the first biography on Satchel Paige, the premier pitcher of the Negro Leagues. Having interviewed more than 200 veteran fellow players of the Negro and Major Leagues, he is able to flesh out the Satchel Paige persona. Through Paige's hard-scrabble years in Jim Crow Alabama to his time with the all-black Monarchs, one of the powerhouses in segregated colored ball, Tye dissects Satchel's mastery of pitching, his accuracy, power and velocity, and signature pitch, the sizzler. Satchel was among the peerless Negro Leaguers, who beat the white big leaguers more than 60% of the time; he struck out some of the biggest sluggers, like Ralph Kiner, Rogers Hornsby and even Joe DiMaggio, who got one hit off of Satchel and was signed by the Yankees immediately. He became one of four black athletes signed up in the late 1940s, with the Cleveland Indians, three years after Jackie Robinson joined the Dodgers (the two men were bitter rivals). This is the definitive biography of a black showman-athlete, and as Tye makes the case, one of the finest pitchers ever, who finally was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971. (July) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Bookmarks Magazine Critics agreed that Tye's greatest challenge was to separate the truth of Paige's life from the fiction, promulgated by the shamelessly self-aggrandizing Paige himself. To this end, Tye researched Paige's life thoroughly, scrutinizing source documents from birth records to FBI files and conducting more than 200 interviews with Paige's family and friends. Tye's fondness for his subject is obvious, but that doesn't prevent him from debunking the myths surrounding Paige's life. However, a couple of critics felt that Tye was still too credulous, and others considered some of his arguments a bit tenuous. Though Tye has unearthed some eye-opening information -- for example, Paige was a bigamist -- Satchel is no racy, tell-all biography but a balanced examination of a legendary athlete and pioneer. Having known Satchel when I was a young ballplayer, I'm reminded of the man who took over the game with both his superior pitching and his dynamic personality. This book is a must-read that captures the essence of one of the greatest legends in baseball history, Satchel Paige. Dusty Baker, Manager, Cincinnati Reds "Knowing Satchel Paige is knowing nobody like him. This is a superb book about an outstanding man." Yogi Berra First, make a list of, say, the five athletes of all time you'd want to invite to the house for a night of beer and nonsense. Second, if you haven't picked Leroy (Satchel) Paige, one of the others has to go. (Good-bye Wilt, Arnie, Whomever.) Third, get up the cash for this book and Satchel's there. Larry Tye delivers him in fine, robust prose, living and breathing, riding the buses and breaking off outrageous curve balls and figuring out the complexities of segregated America. Great stuff. Leigh Montville, author of *The Big Bam*, *The Life and Times of Babe Ruth*, *Ted Williams*, *Biography of An American Hero*, and *The Mysterious Montague*, *A True Tale of Hollywood*, *Gold and Armed Robbery* Satchel is a wonderful book. Larry Tye, with his deep research and clear writing, does not just baseball fans but all of America a great service by showing us the real Leroy Paige and why he deserves his legendary status on and off the mound. David Maraniss, author of *Clemente* and *When Pride Still Mattered* "It takes nothing away from

Jackie Robinson to note, as Larry Tye does in this important new book, that Satchel Paige is of a fastball of historic proportions--is an overlooked pioneer in the integration of baseball, and of America itself. This engaging biography sheds light not only on Paige but on the game and the country he helped change forever."Jon Meacham
From the Hardcover edition.