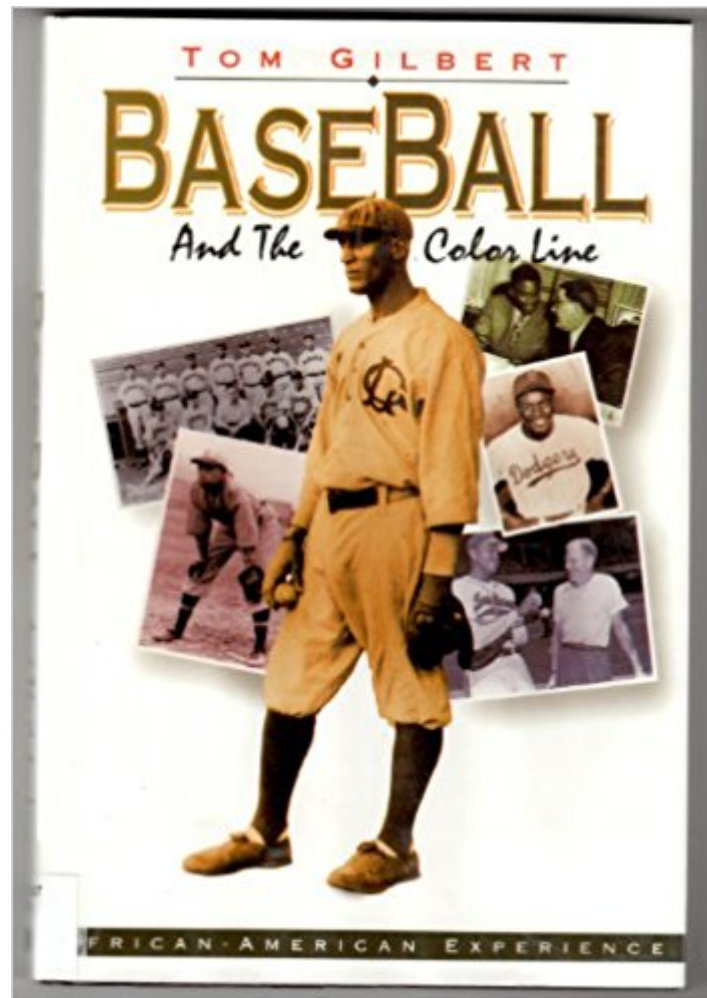




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Baseball And The Color Line (African-American Experience)



Synopsis

Book by Gilbert, Thomas W.

Book Information

Series: African-American Experience

Library Binding: 176 pages

Publisher: Franklin Watts (March 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0531112063

ISBN-13: 978-0531112069

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.2 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,564,254 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Books > Teens > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball & Softball

Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up--This title takes a more scholarly approach than other books published on the subject in the past few years. Over half the text is devoted to looking at the game in the late 19th century when a number of blacks made appearances in the various professional leagues, before the color line was totally enforced. Unlike Robert Gardner and Dennis Shortelle's *The Forgotten Players* (Walker, 1993), the McKissacks' *Black Diamond* (Scholastic, 1994), Michael Cooper's *Playing America's Game* (Dutton, 1993), and Jacob Margolies's *The Negro Leagues* (Watts, 1993), Gilbert gives scant attention to the Negro Leagues, concentrating on the efforts of those who tried to integrate the all-white professional leagues. Major players and other figures in this effort, and those who fought integration, are featured throughout the text. The author also ties prejudice in baseball to that found in American society at the time. Black-and-white archival photos, source notes, and appendixes are included. While less anecdotal and somewhat drier than the aforementioned titles on the Negro Leagues, *Baseball and the Color Line* provides a different focus and thus is deserving of consideration. Tom S. Hurlburt, La Crosse Public Library, WI Copyright 1995 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

A well written and beautifully researched book that offers new insights on the sad baseball history of discrimination against black baseball players. Gilbert provides a vivid portrait of how and why blacks

were denied the ability to play on the same field with white players. The story parallels the nation's history of segregation and the political power fueled by white people who believed the white race must dominate other races. This is a must read for those who want the inside story of how Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson not only changed baseball but hastened the civil rights movement.

Great!

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