

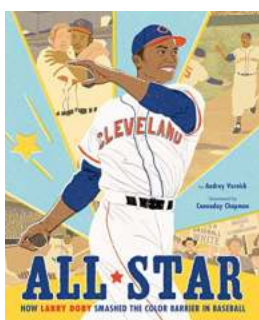
The Untold Story of How Larry Doby Smashed The Color Barrier In Baseball



Baseball is often referred to as America's favorite pastime, but for many years it was a sport marked by racial segregation. The Major Leagues were exclusively white until the Brooklyn Dodgers signed Jackie Robinson in 1947, making him the first African-American to play in the modern era of baseball. However, what many

people don't know is that just three months later, Larry Doby followed in Robinson's footsteps and broke the color barrier in the American League.

Larry Doby was born in Camden, South Carolina, in 1923. His talents in baseball were evident even at a young age, and it didn't take long for him to catch the attention of scouts. In 1942, at the age of 18, Doby signed with the Newark Eagles of the Negro National League and quickly established himself as one of the league's brightest stars.



All Star: How Larry Doby Smashed the Color Barrier in Baseball by Audrey Vernick (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Print length : 40 pages



Despite facing racial discrimination throughout his career, Doby continued to excel in the Negro Leagues. In 1946, he led the league in home runs, batting average, and stolen bases, capturing the attention of Bill Veeck, the owner of the Cleveland Indians. Veeck had a reputation for being a progressive thinker, and he believed that integrating the Major Leagues was long overdue. He saw Larry Doby as the perfect candidate to break the color barrier in the American League.

On July 5, 1947, Doby made his debut with the Cleveland Indians. He became the first African-American player in American League history, just months after Jackie Robinson achieved the same milestone in the National League. Doby faced immense scrutiny and racism from fans, opponents, and even some of his own teammates.

But Larry Doby didn't let the adversity discourage him. He possessed a tremendous amount of talent and an unwavering determination to succeed. In his first full season with the Indians in 1948, Doby batted .301, hit 14 home runs, and played a pivotal role in leading the team to a World Series championship. He was named an All-Star for the first of seven consecutive times, further solidifying his place among the game's elite.

Throughout his career, Doby endured countless instances of racial prejudice, including death threats and being barred from hotels and restaurants. Despite the challenges he faced, he unequivocally proved that African-American players could excel in the Major Leagues. Doby's success not only opened doors for future generations of black athletes but also paved the way for other minority groups to join the game.

Off the field, Doby was admired and respected for his quiet dignity and sportsmanship. He became a mentor for many younger players, guiding them through the difficulties of being a minority in a predominantly white sport. Doby's contributions extended far beyond his statistics on the field.

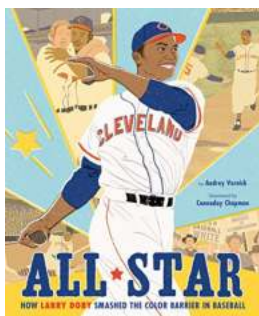
Although his achievements were undoubtedly groundbreaking, Larry Doby's story is often overshadowed by Jackie Robinson's. Robinson's legacy has rightfully received widespread recognition for breaking the color barrier in baseball, but it is essential to recognize the contributions and sacrifices made by other players like Doby.

Larry Doby's impact on the game cannot be understated. He left an indelible mark not only on baseball but also on American society. He showed the world that talent and skill know no color, and that everyone should be judged based on their abilities rather than the color of their skin.

Today, Larry Doby's legacy lives on through various initiatives and awards. In 1998, Major League Baseball established the "Larry Doby Game" to honor African-American players who have made significant contributions to the sport. The Cleveland Indians retired his number 14, and in 1998, Doby became the second African-American player inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Larry Doby's journey from the segregated Negro Leagues to the Major Leagues serves as an inspiration to many. His determination, resilience, and perseverance in the face of adversity changed the landscape of baseball forever. Larry Doby will forever be remembered as a hero and trailblazer who helped transform America's favorite pastime into a more inclusive and diverse sport.

So the next time you watch a baseball game, take a moment to remember Larry Doby's incredible legacy and the impact he had on the game we all love.



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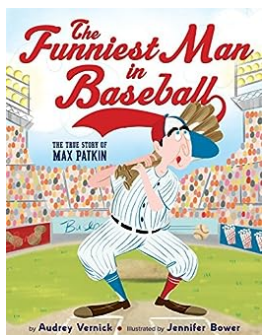
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The remarkable story of Larry Doby, the first Black baseball player in the American League.

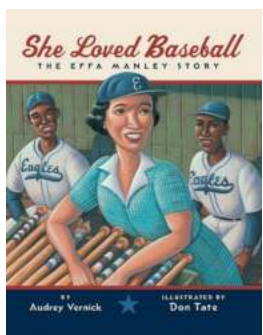
In 1947, Larry Doby signed with the Cleveland Indians, becoming the first Black player in the American leagues. He endured terrible racism, both from fans and his fellow teammates. Despite this, he became a unifying force on and off the

field, and went on to become a seven-time All Star. Illustrated with Cannaday Chapman's bold, stylized illustrations, this exceptional biography tells the story of an unsung hero who not only opened doors for those behind him, but set amazing records during his Hall of Fame career. More significantly, it examines the long fight to overcome racism in sports and our culture at large, a fight that is far from over.



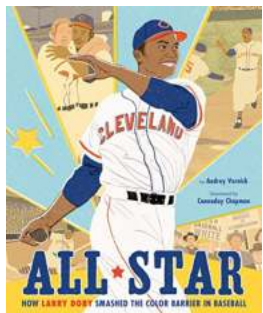
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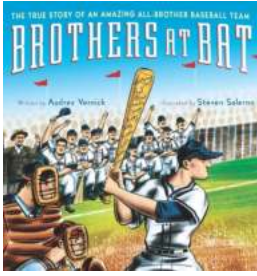
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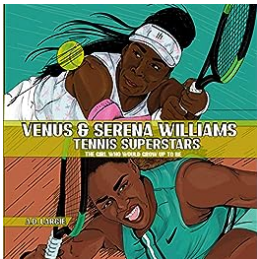
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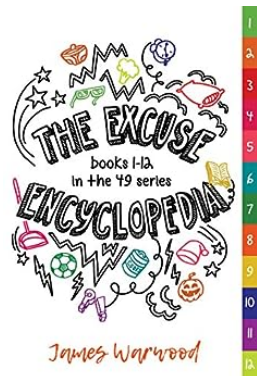
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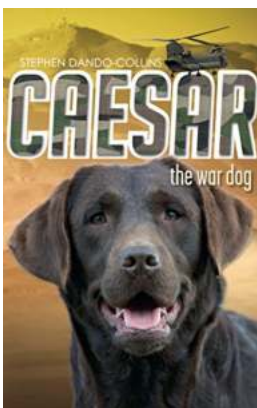
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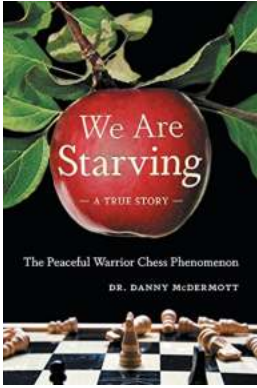
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