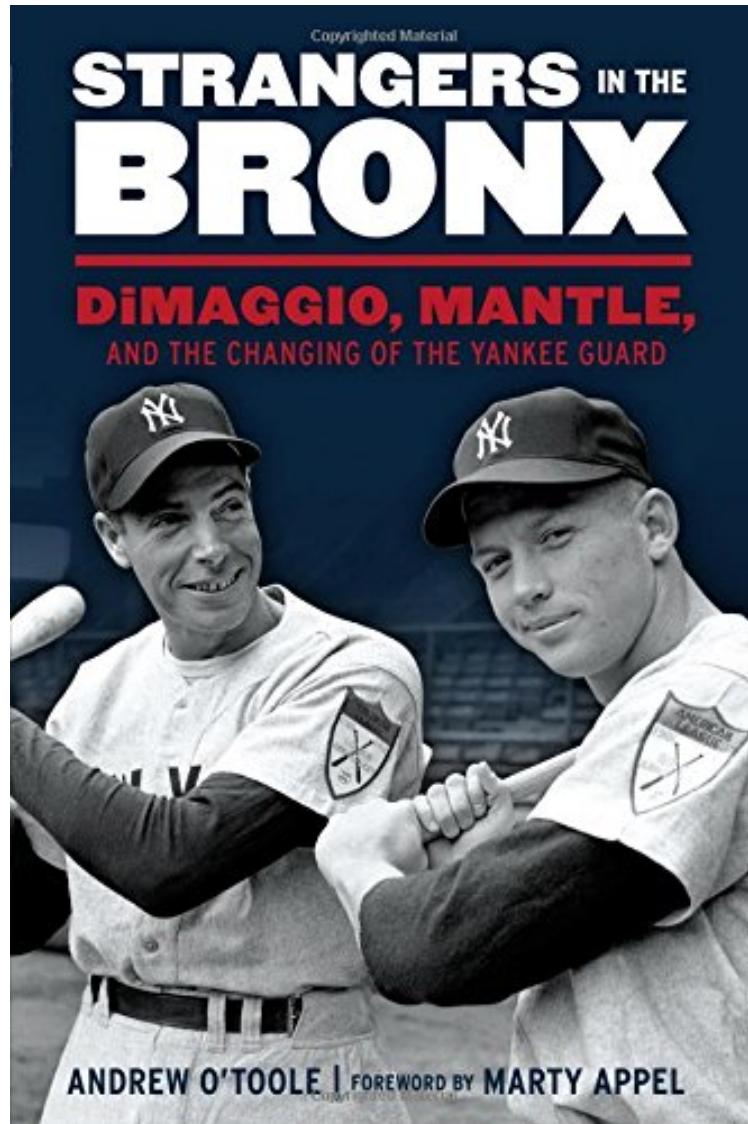


[Free download] Strangers in the Bronx: DiMaggio, Mantle, and the Changing of the Yankee Guard

Strangers in the Bronx: DiMaggio, Mantle, and the Changing of the Yankee Guard

Andrew O'Toole

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Andrew O'Toole : Strangers in the Bronx: DiMaggio, Mantle, and the Changing of the Yankee Guard before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strangers in the Bronx: DiMaggio, Mantle, and the Changing of the Yankee Guard:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. BACK IN THE DAY WHEN THE PLAYERS WERE FELLAS REPORTERS WERE THE BOYS EVERYTHING WAS SWELL DiMAGGIO WAS DOURBy Rick Shaq

Goldstein 1951 was a turbulent year in the Bronx for the New York Yankees. It was the hope and promise of a rookie by the name of Mickey Mantle and the crumbling of a Yankee icon that wasn't really the human being perceived by the outside world. Firmly embedded in the very middle of this uncomfortable changing of the guard was the one and only Charles Dillon Stengel known to the world as Casey. And though the book's cover photo is of The Mick and Dimag Casey gets as much if not more book time than the two aforementioned icons. It makes sense that Casey is center stage since he was the manager that had to balance the crumbling demise of what was known as Joe DiMaggio and at the same time manage and control the expectation of a raw young superstar in the making. The author does a good job of chronicling not only the statistical trail of this crossroad year of Yankee history but also the psychological and mental aspects. Amazingly the most impressive part of the book is the balancing act and onstage performance of a heretofore caricature of a rubber-faced wobbling mangler of the English language The Old Professor himself Casey Stengel. Casey is one part politician one part vaudeville act one part baseball strategist and one part (Which was surprising to me even after half-a-century of dedication to the love of baseball) disciplinarian. Also surprising but not as much so was what an unlovable unsympathetic individual Joe DiMaggio was. In fact after reading this book I can now answer without hesitation the poetic musical question asked by Paul Simon: Where have you gone Joe DiMaggio? The answer is he got the hell out of New York at the request of all his teammates! Here is one of the nice descriptions of his alienation from his teammates. Tommy Henrich and DiMaggio had played side by side for 10 years, a decade of baseball shared. Each man deeply respected and admired the others skills on the ball field. Truth is, a harsh word never passed between the two. But Henrich could never remember sharing a meal with Joe. Joe was extraordinarily self-conscious off. (The field) DiMaggio wasn't the most articulate fella and he feared coming off as an uneducated rube. There is a very nostalgic throw-back feel to the book as individuals always refer to people as being swell and the other players are quite often referred to as the fellas and the reporters warmly referred to as the boys. It's almost like watching an old black and white Jimmy Stewart or Humphrey Bogart movie. The release date of this book seemed to change many times as I received numerous Emails from notifying me of such changes. It has been my experience that when this happens more often than not that foretells editing problems and there were a number of typos and grammatical mistakes. This is a book that will be enjoyed by old-school baseball fans. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. 1951--The Year in Which Two Superstar Careers Overlapped By Bill Emblom Author Andrew O'Toole has brought the 1951 season of the New York Yankees back to life when the final season of Joe DiMaggio overlapped with the rookie year of Mickey Mantle. Author O'Toole paints magnificent portraits of the reclusive DiMaggio, the much-heralded Mantle who hit moon shots from both sides of the plate, along with General Manager George Weiss, Manager Casey Stengel, and other members of the team such as Yogi Berra, Hank Bauer, Gil MacDougald, and others. The author does a wonderful job in presenting the tug-of-war between Weiss and Stengel as to what Mantle's immediate future should be; the minor leagues at Kansas City or with the parent Yankees. We have the conflict between Stengel and DiMaggio which each presented as nonexistent to reporters while having private thoughts about each other. Mantle's struggles that had him sent to the Yankees' Kansas City's minor league farm club led to his father's stern lecture that eventually got him on the road to success. The book concludes with coverage of the 1951 World Series between the Yankees and the New York Giants. The book contains no photos but Author O'Toole paints such vivid pictures throughout the book of the principal characters that the lack of photos went unnoticed by me. Forest have been felled on the printing of books on the New York Yankees but this one is a gem whether you are a Yankee fan or not. Buy the book. It is well worth it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Coming/Going By Jerry D. Pulley Very entertaining. Pretty much already knew of the story. The author did fill in some pieces of the story I hadn't known of. Would suggest book to any baseball fan. This bit of history is remarkable considering that two of the games greatest players were members of the same team for one special year!

Rare is the athlete who captures the imagination of a generation. In Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, sports culture had two such figures. Undoubtedly, DiMaggio and Mantle are two of the most revered names in baseball literature. However, there is one particular moment that has been overlooked by baseball historians and writers: the 1951 pennant-winning New York Yankees team DiMaggio's last year and Mantle's rookie season. For that one year, the paths of these two baseball icons converged, the naissance of Mantle's career poignantly juxtaposed with the slow descent of DiMaggio's final season. Strangers in the Bronx is more than a chronicle of a World Series-winning team, it is also a study of heroes: the decline of an all-too mortal American icon and the emergence of the newest sensation in sport.

About the Author Andrew O'Toole is a freelance writer who has previously authored seven books, including Paul Brown: The Rise and Fall and Rise Again of Footballs Most Innovative Coach and Sweet William: The Life of Billy Conn. He lives in Maineville, Ohio. Marty Appel is the author of 18 books, including the best-seller Pinstripe Empire: The New York Yankees from Before the Babe to After the Boss.