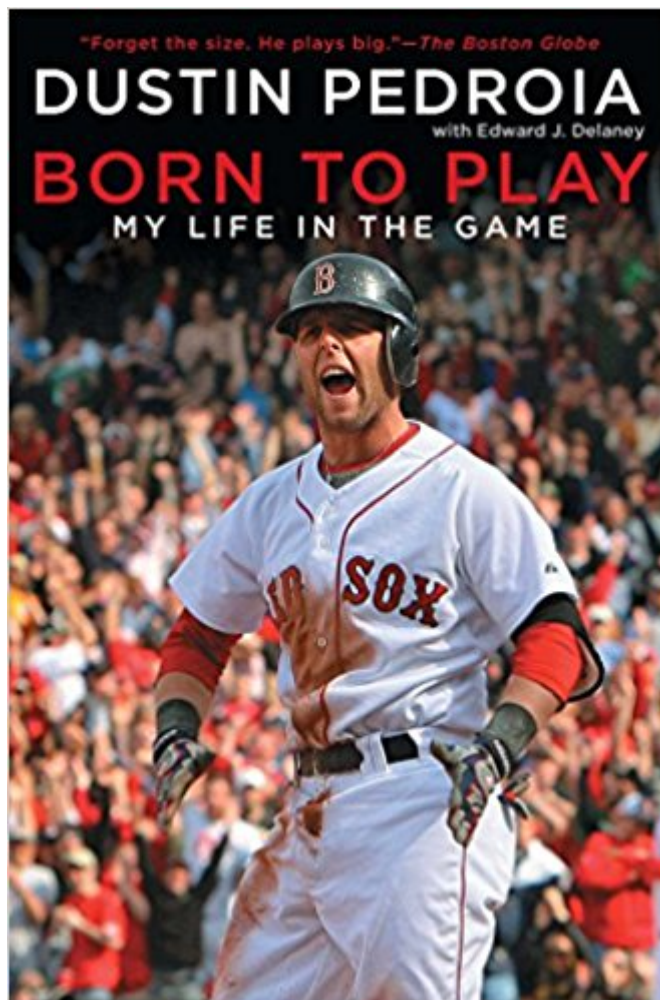


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Born To Play: My Life In The Game



Synopsis

The inspirational story of Boston Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia – a giant talent in a small package – who defied his critics to become one of the greatest players in the game today. Dustin Pedroia, at five feet seven inches and 170 pounds, is not the biggest, the strongest, or the fastest player in the game of baseball, but in just two years of major-league play he was named Rookie of the Year, Most Valuable Player, and helped the Boston Red Sox win a World Championship. At a time when steroid scandals dominate media coverage of America's beloved pastime, Pedroia has proven to the world that a good baseball player is more than size and statistics. His success comes from the heart. In *Born to Play*, Pedroia shares the story of his difficult and uplifting journey to prove himself at every turn. More than anything, his love of the game and desire to win, not just for himself but for his teammates, defines Pedroia as an athlete – but his dedication, his perseverance, and of course, his monster swing have made him a beloved new symbol of baseball and offer hope for the future of America's favorite game.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“We learned that if we told this kid he couldn't do it, he was going to go ahead and show us that he could.” – Pat Murphy, head baseball coach, Arizona State University
“He's going to be an elite player every year because pitchers will always make the mistake of trying to throw fastballs by him.” – Mike Lowell, third baseman, Boston Red Sox

During his brief career in the majors, Dustin Pedroia has already won several awards including being named the 2007 American League Rookie of the Year and the 2008 American League MVP. Pedroia ended the 2008 season with a .326 average with 17 home runs, 83 RBIs, and 20 stolen bases. He was tied for the MLB in hits with 213 and led the league in doubles (54), while leading the AL in runs scored (118). In December 2008, Pedroia signed a six-year contract extension with the Red Sox.

I am fascinated by Dustin Pedroia as a player and discovered that I would really like him as a person. Although the book was not in good condition when I got it, it was obvious that the original owner really used the book a lot. It is well worth the time to read it if you are interested the experiences of a young man learning to play baseball and his experiences in trying to reach the major leagues. I am a baseball fan and have read several books about baseball and I consider this one a fine story. Each chapter is separated with a page or two of comments from people who knew Dusty during his rise to become the backbone of the Red Sox. He was given a long term contract with the Red Sox and has said that he will spend his entire career with them - like Derek Jeter with the Yankees. Dusty is always the first player to arrive for practice and for games, and he really enjoys the game. He and his wife and two sons live in Arizona in the winter so that he can work out and play baseball all winter, and they live in the Boston area in the summer. He really likes Boston and the Fenway Baseball Stadium.

I'm really disappointed in this book. I bought it for my son to read as he is of small stature and loves playing baseball. However the foul language peppered liberally through the pages is off putting at best. I'm going to finish it, to see if there is something my son can get from the book that will make it worth the read, but I guess I'll just look around for a biography instead. A shame.

It gets boring listening to i did this and I did that

Great book to read while the boys of summer are playing ball. Always liked Pedroia on the field, now have even greater respect for him and his work ethic, talent and heart. Boston loves you Pedey and hope you're in that uniform for a long time...

This was a simple read, but the content was just what I wanted to know about how Pedey got his start and what makes him tick. I loved hearing about his family, his upbringing, and his love of the

game. I was actually brought to tears at the end, because he has, in his heart, the true essence of what it means to play for the Red Sox, and he explained it in the final words of the book. In this time when athletes are earning unbelievably high salaries and they never seem to be satisfied with their contracts, we have Justin Pedroia, who plays baseball with every ounce of blood, sweat, and tears he has in him and puts that ahead of the "bottom line." I love him for that!

You don't have to be Red Sox fan to respect and admire Dustin Pedro's work ethic and values. He is what we should all strive to be. Not a baseball player but a never say die personality. Great book if you're like stories of the little guy with a never quit and never give up attitude who comes out on top.

Purchased this for my grandson for Christmas. He is a Yankee fan - but he loves Pedroia. I read a few snippets before wrapping and the book seemed pretty good. There are aspects of Pedroia's life where the lessons learned might be applied by my grandson.

Unbelievable story of this young mans dedication to the game. I certainly hope he goes on to be remembered as one of the greats in baseball.

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