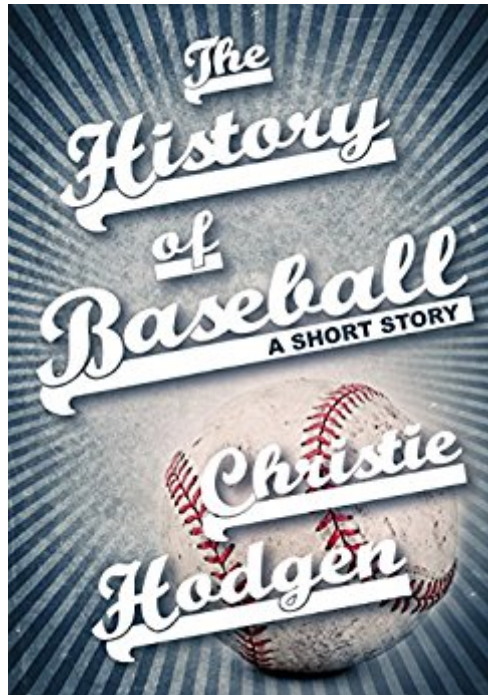




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The History Of Baseball (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

Has anyone ever told you that baseball is more than a game, that it's really a metaphor for life? Have you ever wondered what they meant? This story imagines the answer. A single mother moves to Kansas City with her young daughter, and notices that everyone she meets—her new colleagues, neighbors, even the mailman—can't stop talking about baseball. "It's more than just a game," they tell the mother. "It's so much more. What you need is to come to a game and experience it." Again and again the mother makes her excuses—she is busy with work, and parenting, and fending off her ex, who keeps drunk-texting, threatening to sue for custody—and just doesn't have time to get out to the stadium. But baseball, it seems, won't take no for an answer. One day a Kansas City Royals outfielder moves into the neighborhood. And things only get stranger from there. Soon enough the mother begins to realize that her participation in America's favorite pastime might not be optional—it might be compulsory, a mandatory part of American life. In fact, whether she keeps her daughter and her job might depend on her learning to play the game. She stalls as long as she can, until one day an unexpected confrontation with three of baseball's official representatives—a sort of existential World Series—determines her fate. Christie Hodgen is the author of three highly-acclaimed books of fiction, most recently "Elegies for the Brokenhearted," hailed by The New York Times Book Review as "the literary equivalent of a hand grenade." Her awards include a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, two Pushcart Prizes, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. She lives in Kansas City. Cover design by Kristen Radtke.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Terrible. Has nothing to do with baseball. Don't be fooled by the title.

A quick powerful story about life and baseball interesting at a crossroads. Found myself waiting more. Wondering about the characters, in a good way.

This was an "odd" book To be honest I am not all that certain I can explain it. But it was (in some part) about baseball. So it can't be all that bad. Right?!?

The story starts well, but becomes a little surreal. It's well written, but the story spiraled out of control.

Entertaining. Good but not great. I like her other - later - stuff even better.

Cutesy but not much substance. It could have had more dialogue and more anecdotes. The dream scene in the end was bizarre.

In the spirit of Philip Roth's The Great American Novel, this little story does a nice job of illuminating the spiritual aspects of the great American past time.

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