

Journey Back to the Dawn of Mets Magic: Collection of the Greatest Stories from the Inaugural 1962 Season

Prologue: A New Era Dawns



**Tales from the 1962 New York Mets Dugout: A
Collection of the Greatest Stories from the Mets
Inaugural Season (Tales from the Team)** by Lew Freedman

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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The year was 1962, and the baseball world was abuzz with anticipation. After decades of fruitless attempts, New York City was finally getting its own National League franchise, the New York Mets. With a legendary manager at the helm and a colorful cast of characters on the field, the Mets embarked on their inaugural season, a journey that would forever be etched in the annals of baseball history.

Led by the whimsical Casey Stengel, a Hall of Fame manager known for his colorful wit and unorthodox tactics, the Mets were an unlikely underdog from the start. With a roster filled with a mix of seasoned veterans and raw prospects, the team's chances of success seemed slim. But the Mets had something that no other team could match: an infectious spirit and an unyielding determination to make their mark.

Chapter 1: The Lovable Losers

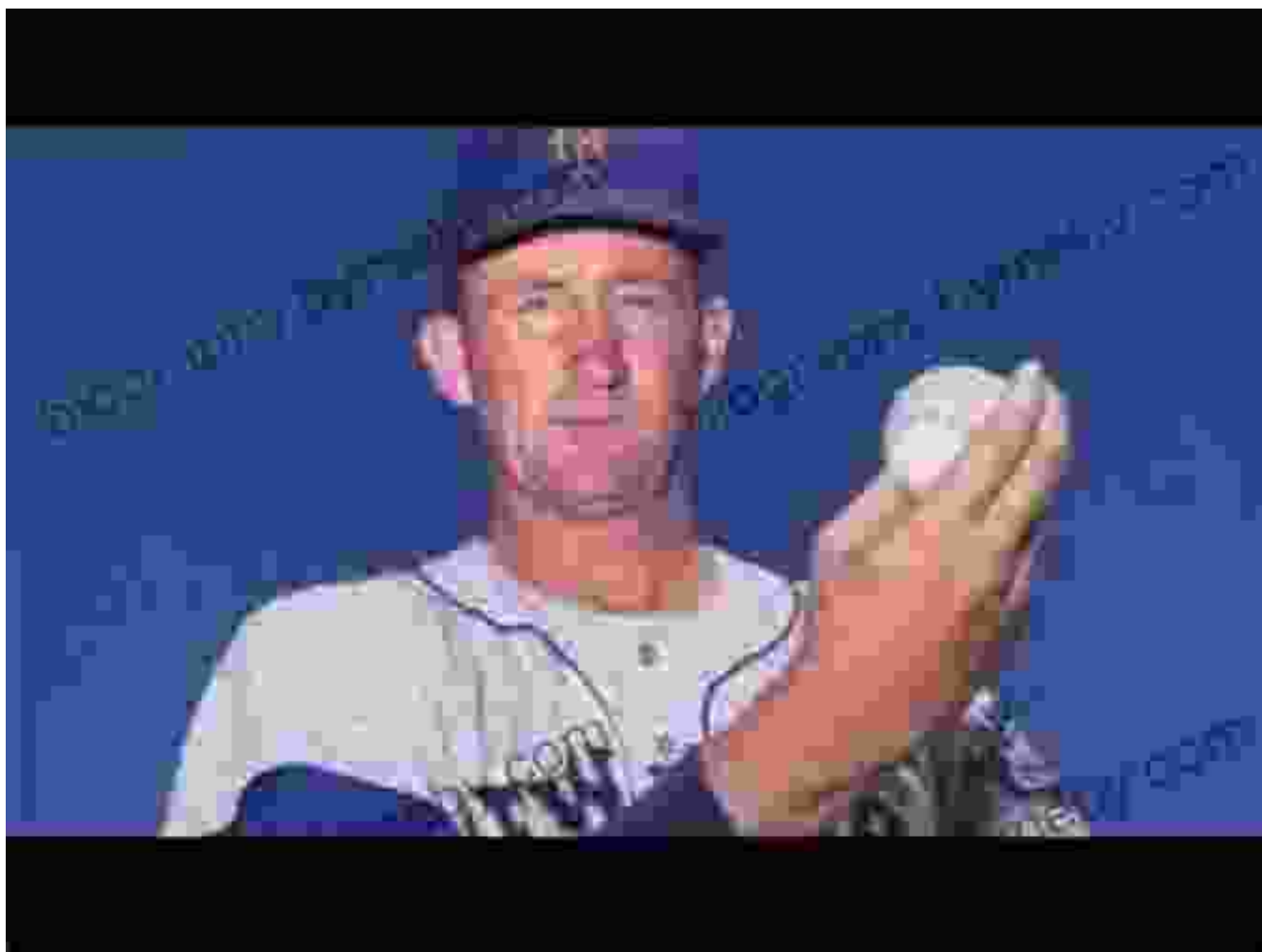


Marv Throneberry

The 1962 Mets were not a team that won many games. In fact, they finished with a dismal record of 40-120, the worst in the National League. But what they lacked in victories, they more than made up for in entertainment value. The Mets were a lovable band of misfits, a group of well-intentioned players who seemed to find creative ways to lose.

Among the most beloved Mets was Marv Throneberry, the perpetually perplexed first baseman whose fielding mishaps became a source of both frustration and amusement. There was also "Marvelous" Marv Grissom, a pitcher whose fastball was as unpredictable as the weather, and Gil Hodges, the stoic captain whose patience was tested by the team's endless string of blunders.

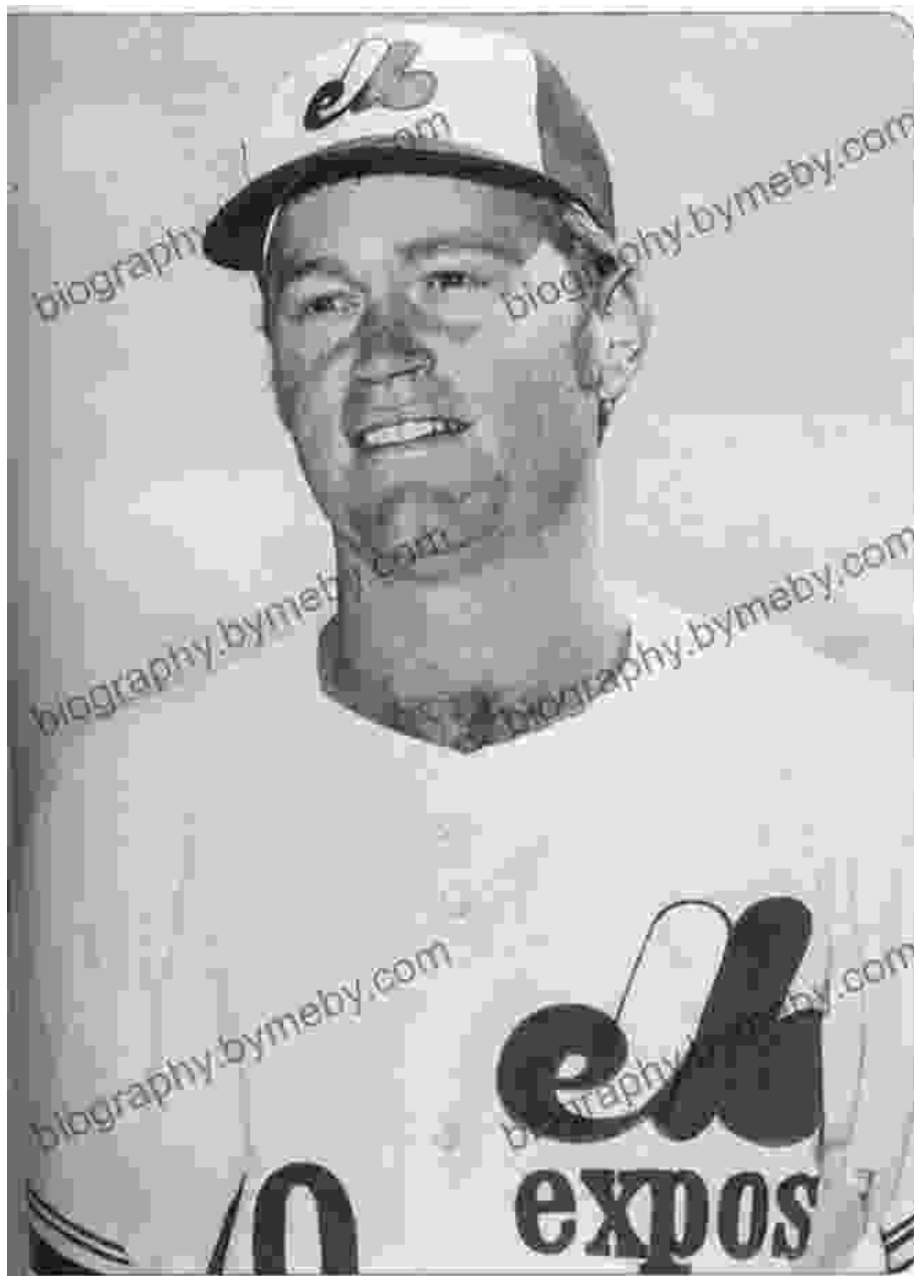
Chapter 2: The Miracle of Roger Craig



In the midst of all the losing, there were moments of brilliance that hinted at the potential of the young Mets. One such moment came on July 21, 1962, when 22-year-old pitcher Roger Craig took the mound against the Chicago

Cubs. In a performance that defied all expectations, Craig threw a no-hitter, striking out 16 batters in the process. It was a performance that not only stunned the baseball world but also gave Mets fans a glimpse of what the future might hold.

Chapter 3: The Rise of the Young Stars



Rusty Staub

As the 1962 season progressed, several young players began to emerge as potential cornerstones for the future. Cleon Jones, a speedy outfielder, showed flashes of brilliance both at the plate and in the field. Ed Kranepool, a steady first baseman, proved to be a reliable presence in the lineup. And Rusty Staub, a switch-hitting outfielder with a sweet swing, hinted at the Hall of Fame career that lay ahead.

Chapter 4: The Heart of the Mets

Beyond the individual highlights, it was the team's collective spirit that truly defined the inaugural season. Led by the tireless Tug McGraw, a young pitcher known for his relentless determination, the Mets never gave up, even when the odds were stacked against them. Their unwavering camaraderie and infectious enthusiasm captivated fans and made them believe that anything was possible.

Chapter 5: A Legacy that Endures



Although the 1962 Mets fell short on the field, their impact on baseball history cannot be overstated. They introduced the game to a new generation of fans in New York City, igniting a passion for the sport that continues to burn brightly today. The Mets' inaugural season was a testament to the indomitable spirit of sports and the enduring power of hope. It is a story that will be told and retold for generations to come.

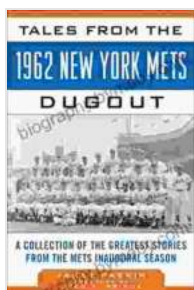
Epilogue: A Timeless Classic

The tales from the 1962 Mets inaugural season have become a timeless part of baseball lore. They are stories of triumph and defeat, of laughter and heartbreak, and of the indomitable spirit that defines the game itself. In

the pages of "Collection of the Greatest Stories from the Mets Inaugural Season," these stories come to life, capturing the magic of a moment that forever changed the landscape of New York baseball. Whether you are a lifelong Mets fan, a casual baseball enthusiast, or simply someone who loves a good story, this book is a must-read.

Book Information

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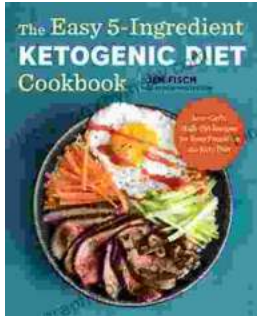
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