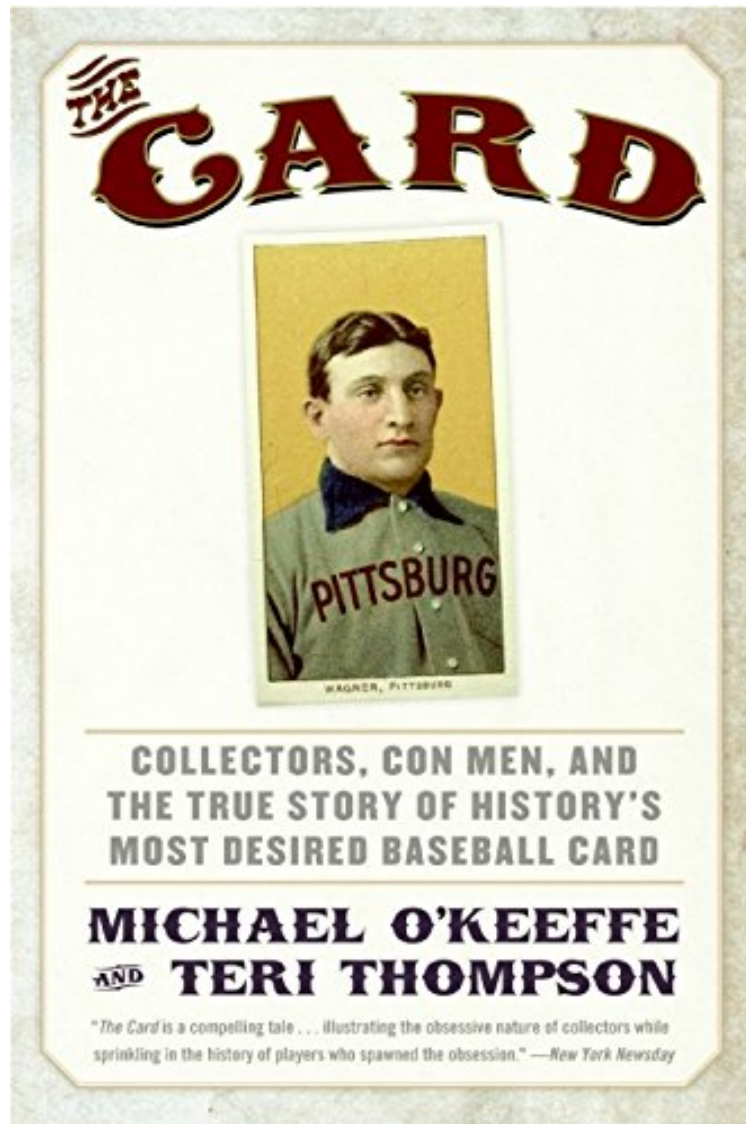


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The Card: Collectors, Con Men, and the True Story of History's Most Desired Baseball Card

Michael O'Keeffe, Teri Thompson

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Michael O'Keeffe, Teri Thompson : The Card: Collectors, Con Men, and the True Story of History's Most Desired Baseball Card before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Card: Collectors, Con Men, and the True Story of History's Most Desired Baseball Card:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Solid and interesting topic, but needs better Kindle editing By J.

Klein ABOUT THE BOOK: As someone who once collected baseball cards as a kid, it was interesting to learn a little something more about the hobby and its most sought-after baseball card. I never knew how cut-throat baseball card collecting really was. It was also nice to learn a little something about Honus Wagner, a long-forgotten Hall of Famer. For anyone who has collected baseball cards, this book is worth reading for the the history and background on the hobby and some of its key players even if the book might be a bit dated already (technology evolving and all). The book is well researched and interviews are solid. I'd expect as much from a reporter and O'Keeffe delivers. ABOUT THE PRODUCT: For a 99-cent Kindle edition, remember you get what you pay for. There are many errors throughout this edition including broken words. For example... Since it appears most often, the word "service" or "services" is 99 percent of the time presented as two words: "ser vice" or "ser vices." Only once did I notice it as one word. Numericals were also broken into two elements after commas. There was even one sentence where a word was misspelled and not even a line and half later, spelled correctly. Extremely annoying, but no one is perfect when it comes to typos. However, not presenting words correctly is just down right irritating. It was almost as if the Kindle editor didn't know the English language or was a computer with its autocorrect malfunctioning. But again, for a 99-cent Kindle book, it is what it is. (And I'm far from perfect, so I hope I haven't littered this review with typos!) STARS: The topic gets 4 stars, the Kindle errors knock it down to 3 stars. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Holy grail of baseball cards, the T206 Honus Wagner By M. A. Filippelli The Card to have is the T209 1909 Honus Wagner. Authors Michael O' Keeffe and Teri Thompson follow the travels of a specific Wagner t206 card issued in 1909 from the early 80's until 2007 (the books publishing date). As interesting as the history of the card are the people involved with the card, how the largest card auction houses were built and how cards are sold today at auction. The Wagner card has turned friends into enemy's and foes in the card trading business. The authors talk about Wagner's career, what he did after his career was over and his resistance to even being on a card that promoted smoking. This book is so much more than that. The authors talk about card doctoring and the process involved in that, card cutting, how that cards are graded. Who the major players are in the after market card buying/selling business. O'Keeffe and Thompson give you a history of baseball cards the company's that produced them and the manufacturing changes along the way. In the case of the specific Wagner card that talk not only about how the card sold for for 25,000 dollars in the 80's and most recently sold for over 2,000,000 dollars. O'Keeffe talk about the speculation that the card had been doctored sometime between the 25,000 dollar sale and the 2,000,000 dollar sale. The authors also talk about the T206 set in general and their collectibility. O'Keeffe and Thompson talk about the trends in card buying. The 1952 mickey Mantle, Cigarette company's getting out of the business of putting cards in with their cigarettes and the birth of the Topps chewing gum company. At some point in the early 80's when Topps had to give up their exclusive rights to baseball players for card production the market was then flooded with new manufactures each producing multiple sets. The market and interest baseball for cards took off. By the late 80's the card market was in decline. All in all an interesting read, I wish the authors could have gone farther back in the card's ownership history. The editing was good and I enjoyed the book. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating story and a great read By Paul Bolstad Remember the cafe scene in Indiana Jones, where Belloq holds up a cheap pocket watch and explains what will happen if you bury it in the sand for 10,000 years? Turns out, he should have just saved the cardboard advertisement that came with a pack of American cigarettes for 90 years... In any case, reading the story of how one of those cardboard advertisements became a priceless treasure, and, along the way, reading about both the Indiana Joneses and Renee Belloqs seeking that treasure, is an absolute delight. Great coverage of the subject of that treasure, as well: Honus Wagner. Great book to get excited for a trip to a baseball game (or to remind you to be cautious on your next trip to eBay for baseball cards.) Kindle formatting was excellent.

Only a few dozen T206 Wagners are known to still exist, having been released in limited numbers just after the turn of the twentieth century. Most, with their creases and stains, look like they've been around for nearly one hundred years. But one—The Card—appears to have defied the travails of time. Its sharp corners and still-crisp portrait make it the single-most famous—and most desired—baseball card on the planet, valued today at more than two million dollars. It has transformed a simple hobby into a billion-dollar industry that is at times as lawless as the Wild West. Everything about The Card, which has made men wealthy as well as poisoned lifelong relationships, is fraught with controversy—from its uncertain origins to the nagging possibility that it might not be exactly as it seems. In this intriguing, eye-opening, and groundbreaking look at a uniquely American obsession, award-winning investigative reporters Michael O'Keeffe and Teri Thompson follow The Card's trail from a Florida flea market to the hands of the world's most prominent collectors. The Card sheds a fascinating new light on a world of counterfeiters, con men, and the people who profit from what used to be a pastime for kids.

“Lively and well-researched.” (Sports Illustrated.com) About the Author Michael O'Keeffe is an award-winning journalist who is a member of the New York Daily News sports investigation team. He has been a reporter and editor for more than twenty years. A graduate of the University of Colorado, he lives in Brooklyn with his wife and son. Teri Thompson is a former top editor at the New York Daily News, where she created the newspaper's award-winning

sports investigative team that broke the Chuck Blazer story in 2014. Before coming to the News, she was a sports columnist at the Rocky Mountain News and an editor at ESPN. She has co-authored two books, including the critically acclaimed “American Icon: The Fall of Rogers Clemens and the Rise of Steroids in America” and is also a member of the Connecticut bar.