



Catcher in the Wry

Bob Uecker

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A former major league baseball player recounts anecdotes of his years behind the plate and on the road, recalling the antics of his famous teammates, including Hank Aaron, Bob Gibson, Richie Allen, and Warren Spahn.

Catcher in the Wry Details

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Author : Bob Uecker

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From Reader Review Catcher in the Wry for online ebook

Amy says

This book was fabulous. It was like listening to Ueck tell stories when he's calling games. He is a character and a half. It's amazing what players did back in the day. I was constantly laughing out loud while reading this. I had to track down a used copy of the book. I need to own it. It will be \$4 well spent. Every Brewers and Uecker fan will get a kick out of this book. Loved it!

Anthony says

this book is very funny and fun

Seth Heasley says

Watching the Brewers in the NLDS, I remembered I'd read this one. Just a hilarious book, as you'd expect. I especially loved his captions on the pictures in the middle of the book. Favorite one showed him sliding into home, caption something like "Trying to score from second on a triple. Out in a close play."

Lane says

A very funny book by one of the best characters in baseball who has gone on to a very long career as a baseball announcer and TV star. It is hard to believe this was written 35 years ago. Great stories especially for the baseball fan.

Matthew J says

Fun stories from a fun guy that crossed paths with several greats of the MLB.

Mary says

I thought this book would be funny from beginning to end, but it started off mostly being serious, had a funny middle and then ended seriously. Good insight into the baseball world back in the day. Will always be a Uecker fan!!

Chris Langdon says

This book is 33 years old and it is just as enjoyable and perceptive as the day it was written. If you are a baseball fan and want a nice breezy and fun read pick this book up. You will dig it. I promise.

Monte Lamb says

Parts of this book are extremely funny. All of it is insightful as to how Uecker looks at life and baseball. It is a fun book to read. The only thing I can criticize is he tries to make a funny story about every other paragraph and sometimes they fall flat. However, the funny ones will make you laugh out loud and want to tell your friends who know baseball.

Daniel Currie says

I've liked listening to Uecker for many years and ran across this book at a Free Little Library so thought I'd read it. It is not too long and figured it would be an easy and fun and that is essentially what it is.

This was written over 30 years ago and times have changed somewhat. I seriously doubt he could get away now with a lot of the hi-jinx he describes. His sense of humor in regards to the stories runs a bit sophomoric, to be sure, and a lot of the stories involve how drunk he was at the time, but certainly not all fit these categories. There are a lot of good and funny stories in the book altho I would have to say a pretty fair amount of them didn't happen to him and he is relating them secondhand, at best.

So it is a decent read, but nothing too serious, which is his credo. Don't take yourself too seriously.

Meril says

There's something quite...expected, I guess...about a Bob Uecker autobio that came out 2 months before the Brewers won the AL pennant. If you can't get him on the radio calling games, at least read this. Unfortunately the humor is of 1970s un-PC vintage. I'm too young to remember him as the Tonight Show guest and national pop culture icon; for the last 25 years he's just been the other guy calling Brewers games that doesn't sound like Pat Hughes. (The last 4 Brewers radio PBP guys sound rather alike. Jim Powell did the best straight man act with Uecker. Joe Block is getting there.)

Glenn says

Enjoyed the book. I've had it on my shelves for close to 30 years and for some reason never picked it up. I recently saw a special on the MLB Channel about the life of Mr. Baseball and decided to read the book. I loved the anecdotes, especially during his limited time in the big leagues. He sure did make the most of what he had. I've seen or heard him tell many of the stories before, but still laughed out loud. The book is dated,

but what he went through is timeless. I would have loved to read more about his time in baseball, even when he was in the minor leagues.

Joe says

I read this book years ago while still at school, then recently picked it out of a "Used Book" bin and reread it last weekend. Guess what? It's still funny and poignant, full of Uecker witticisms and observations. Uecker cracks jokes about his lack of ability and continuous hell-raising while incorporating such greats as Sandy Koufax, Eddie Mathews, Hank Aaron, Bob Gibson and others into his tales. He also provides some tips for up and coming ballplayers. For instance how to catch a knuckleball pitcher, (Uecker caught Phil Niekro early in Niekro's career) – "wait for the ball to stop rolling and then pick it up." There are a few outside the diamond anecdotes with folks like Al Hirt and Howard Cosell. And there are also several chapters on The Official Bob Uecker Fan Club, started by a couple of college guys with a sardonic sense of humor, (Of Course!).

One story not here is one I read in Halberstam's baseball book October 1964. The St. Louis Cardinals' team photo of that year had to be retaken. Two of the players - Bob Uecker and Bob Gibson - were holding hands in the original. Not surprising that Uecker was a culprit, the surprise is that Gibson – a fierce competitor and not someone usually associated with any kind of shenanigans - was involved.

Uecker has successfully made a post-baseball career out of being a back-up catcher with a .200 life-time batting average - he's still the Milwaukee Brewers' play by play announcer - all on his wit and a little insider knowledge. His appearances on Carson were classics.. I doubt this book will ever be considered a "classic" but if you do see it available – do yourself a favor and pick it up. It's still a great read.

Tom Barber says

Goodreads just reminded me that I read (and owned!) this book a long time ago! It was fun! [Just a bit outside...]

Merciful says

Funny baseball memories from lovable ol' Bob "juuuuuust a bit inside" Uecker.

This is a very funny book. You don't even have to like or know anything about baseball - the cat's just funny - everything he says...

Lisa says

Bob Uecker cracks me up. This book is super old, so it only covers his life until the early eighties, but even so, his time as an actual baseball player still only takes up half the book. I love the self-deprecating way he

has of describing his life. I also love his attitude about. I'd be interested to read something he's written more recently, to get his thoughts on how baseball has changed even more since the ways he described that it had changed from when he played until the early eighties.
