

(Download free pdf) You Know Me Al

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Ring Lardner

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Ring Lardner : You Know Me Al before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised You Know Me Al:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Buser's Tale By Lawrence Effler Jr Ring Lardner tells of the humorous trials and tribulations of Jack, a ChiSox pitcher circa 1915 through letters written to his pal Al back home in Bedford, Indiana. Jack has a rather inflated view of himself and his abilities. Today he would be a bonus baby but back then not so much as owners had much greater control. Jack is constantly both outwitted and out maneuvered by Comiskey, his coaches, fellow players and later his wife. Always intending to come home during the off season to spend time with Al Bertha he never quite makes it. But you know me Al...Lardner's journalistic style shines as he's able to write short, concise notes by Jack back to Al in an vernacular idiom suited for ill-educated but well meaning athlete of the day. I've heard claim that Lardner had an ear for speech patterns and it certainly shows with Jack.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. See the Past By richiee "You Know Me Al" is a glimpse of baseball's distant past, like taking a rattling train back to the days of the pre-WWI game. It is studded with references to actual ballplayers - - Mathewson, Cobb, Crawford, Johnson, Jennings, et al. - - and the storytelling protagonist's arrogant, egotistical reflections on life in the big leagues form a classic of sarcastic wit. Be forewarned, though: pitcher Jack Keefe can become pretty frustrating, inasmuch as he always seems to misinterpret the intentions of those around him, lady friends in particular. How good was he on the mound? Well, to hear him tell it . . .0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. Letters from a Rookie Pitcher By Saul Hilarious epistolary novel about a rookie pitcher in the early days of major league baseball. Lardner was a famous baseball reporter until the Black Sox scandal soured him on the game.

Jack Keefe is a talented, brash, and conceited young bush-league pitcher. Impervious to both advice and sarcasm, Keefe rises to the heights, but his inability to learn from his mistakes might just be his undoing. Told through a series of letters written from Keefe to his friend, Al, this baseball classic maintains a balance between the funny and the moving, the pathetic and the glorious. Nostalgic in its view of pre-World War I America, a time before the "live" ball, a time filled with names like Ty Cobb, Charles Comiskey, Walter Johnson, and Eddie Cicotte, this is not a simple period piece. It is about competition, about the ability to reason, and, most of all, it is about being human. First published in 1914, *You Know Me Al* tells us as much about ourselves today as it did nearly a hundred years ago.

.com In his day, Ring Lardner was a legendary humorist (a job-description he disavowed), and *You Know Me Al* shows why everyone loved him so. In the letters of Jack Keefe, a bush-league pitcher who finally gets his chance in the majors, Lardner shows not only a faultless ear, but also a keen eye for the amusing details of human folly. Keefe is no comical bumbler--he has talent--but also possesses astonishing naïvete, and a lack of self-awareness that is unerringly hilarious. The busher blames everyone but himself for his failures (a trait that Lardner uses to wonderful comic effect in the story "Alibi Ike"). Still, thanks to Keefe's mixture of hubris and puppy-dog trust, you want to see him come out all right. Lardner--who played a role in breaking the infamous "Black Sox" scandal of 1919--wrote *You Know Me Al* while covering pro baseball in the teens; for baseball fans, the book is an intriguing glimpse into the past. Athletes haven't changed much, poor devils. They're just as funny as ever, only richer. From Library Journal Lardner's famous collection of humorous short stories gets the no-frills treatment from Dover's "Thrift Editions" series. A buck here buys a million dollars worth of laughs. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Back Cover *You know me Al* is a classic of baseball- the game and the community. It's about competition, about the ability to reason, and most of all it's about being human.