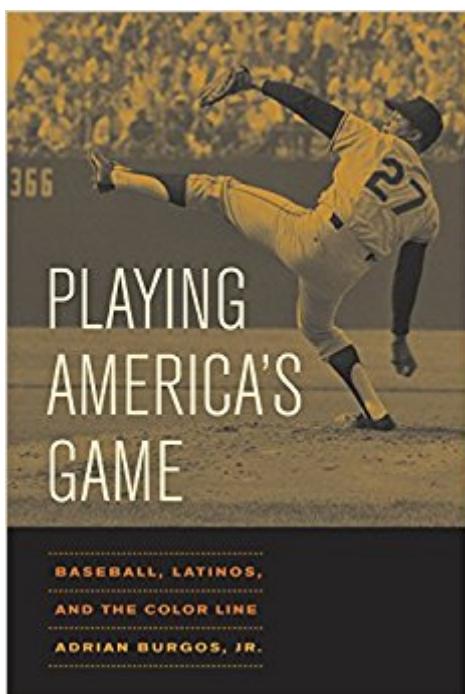


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# Playing America's Game: Baseball, Latinos, And The Color Line (American Crossroads)



## Synopsis

Although largely ignored by historians of both baseball in general and the Negro leagues in particular, Latinos have been a significant presence in organized baseball from the beginning. In this benchmark study on Latinos and professional baseball from the 1880s to the present, Adrian Burgos tells a compelling story of the men who negotiated the color line at every turn; passing as "Spanish" in the major leagues or seeking respect and acceptance in the Negro leagues. Burgos draws on archival materials from the U.S., Cuba, and Puerto Rico, as well as Spanish- and English-language publications and interviews with Negro league and major league players. He demonstrates how the manipulation of racial distinctions that allowed management to recruit and sign Latino players provided a template for Brooklyn Dodgers' general manager Branch Rickey when he initiated the dismantling of the color line by signing Jackie Robinson in 1947. Burgos's extensive examination of Latino participation before and after Robinson's debut documents the ways in which inclusion did not signify equality and shows how notions of racialized difference have persisted for darker-skinned Latinos like Orestes ("Minnie") MiÃ±o, Roberto Clemente, and Sammy Sosa.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Fascinating" (New York Times 2011-06-17)  
"If you want to understand the Latino experience in baseball, read this book." (Slate Magazine 2008-05-09)  
"The

best book yet on the history of Latinos in American baseball. (Beyondchron 2008-03-19) "Burgos does a thorough job of describing this system of skirting the color line, as well as its effects. (Stephen Ellsesser Mlb.com 2008-02-22) "Superb and, in many ways, path breaking . . . A must-read for any serious fan of baseball. (San Francisco Chronicle 2007-07-22) "Excellent book. (Dan Brown San Jose Mercury News 2007-10-02) "Burgos has written a well-conceptualized, prodigiously researched, and cogently argued book. (Journal Of American History 2007-12-01) "An enlightened look at Latino players in baseball and their underappreciated efforts in defeating the sport's color line. (Seattle Post-Intelligencer 2007-08-24) "Well organized and expertly referenced, this is a book for anyone interested in the history of race in the US, ethnic relations, and, of course, baseball. (Choice 2007-12-01) "Burgos [uses] baseball to provide a more sophisticated and subtle account of the intersections between race and culture in America. (Braham Dabscheck Labour History 2010-06-30) "A groundbreaking work. (Centro: Journal Of Ctr For Puerto Rican Std 2008-02-29)

"Adrian Burgos is one of best young historians currently working the baseball beat. This is essential reading, not just for baseball aficionados, but anyone interested in the history of American race and ethnic relations." Jules Tygiel, author of *Extra Bases: Reflections on Jackie Robinson, Race, and Baseball History* "Playing America's Game is a terrific addition to the growing literature in Latino history. It is the most comprehensive and nuanced treatment of Latinos and professional baseball." Vicki L. Ruiz, author of *From Out of the Shadows: Mexican Women in Twentieth-Century America*

GREAT LITTLE BOOK FULL OF UNKNOWN OR PREVIOUSLY LITTLE KNOWN FACTS. I WOULD RECOMMEND IT TO ANY LATINO WHO WANTS TO KNOW SOME OF THE HISTORY BEHIND THE STRUGGLE FOR LATIN BALL PLAYERS OF THAT ERA.

Great books for baseball fans like this one are hard to find in most bookstores. I purchased this book for a teenager interested in baseball history and he absolutely loved it!

I bought this book for my ethnicity in baseball class, and it was a really good book. I liked it a lot.

This gives some interesting history but the author is not a writer! He presents a piece of information

then drones on an on and repeats himself for 10 pages in different ways then repeats this writing style for the next piece of information.I had to read this for class, but couldn't even finish it, it is so dry and boring! Avoid picking this book for a book report.It gets one star because it was easy to get. Although it is far too expensive.

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