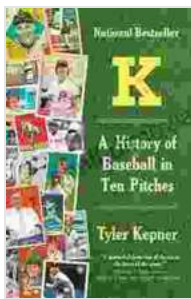


The Unforgettable Journey of Baseball Through the Prism of Ten Iconic Pitches

Welcome, baseball enthusiasts, to an extraordinary odyssey that traces the evolution of our beloved sport through the prism of ten legendary pitches. Each pitch, a transformative moment in baseball's rich history, will captivate you with its thrilling narratives and unforgettable images.



K: A History of Baseball in Ten Pitches by Tyler Kepner

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 58083 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 406 pages



1. Babe Ruth's Called Shot (1932 World Series, Game 3)



The year was 1932, and the New York Yankees were facing the Chicago Cubs in Game 3 of the World Series. With the bases loaded and two outs in the fifth inning, Babe Ruth stepped up to the plate. As the Cubs' pitcher, Charlie Root, prepared to deliver a pitch, Ruth pointed his bat towards the center field bleachers. The crowd erupted in disbelief as Ruth then proceeded to launch a towering home run into the exact spot he had indicated. This audacious display of confidence and power became one of the most iconic moments in baseball history, forever etching Babe Ruth's name into the annals of the game.

2. Sandy Koufax's Perfect Game (1965)



Sandy Koufax's perfect game against the Chicago Cubs in 1965, a masterful display of pitching dominance that remains one of the most untouchable feats in baseball history.

On a sunny afternoon in September 1965, Sandy Koufax, the Dodgers' ace left-hander, took the mound against the Chicago Cubs. For nine unforgettable innings, Koufax was untouchable, throwing 113 pitches without allowing a single base runner. He struck out 14 Cubs batters, including future Hall of Famer Ernie Banks, three times. Koufax's perfect game was a testament to his exceptional control and devastating curveball, cementing his status as one of the greatest pitchers of all time.

3. Nolan Ryan's Record-Breaking Strikeout (1983)



For nearly two decades, Nolan Ryan terrorized batters with his blazing fastball and devastating breaking pitches. On May 1, 1983, Ryan took the mound against the Milwaukee Brewers, needing just one strikeout to surpass Walter Johnson's all-time strikeout record of 3,508. With the entire baseball world watching, Ryan faced Robin Yount, the Brewers' star shortstop. On a 1-2 count, Ryan unleashed a blistering fastball that Yount swung and missed at for strike three. The crowd erupted in thunderous applause as Ryan celebrated his historic achievement, a testament to his exceptional longevity and unmatched ability to overpower hitters.

4. Mariano Rivera's Cutter (1996-2013)

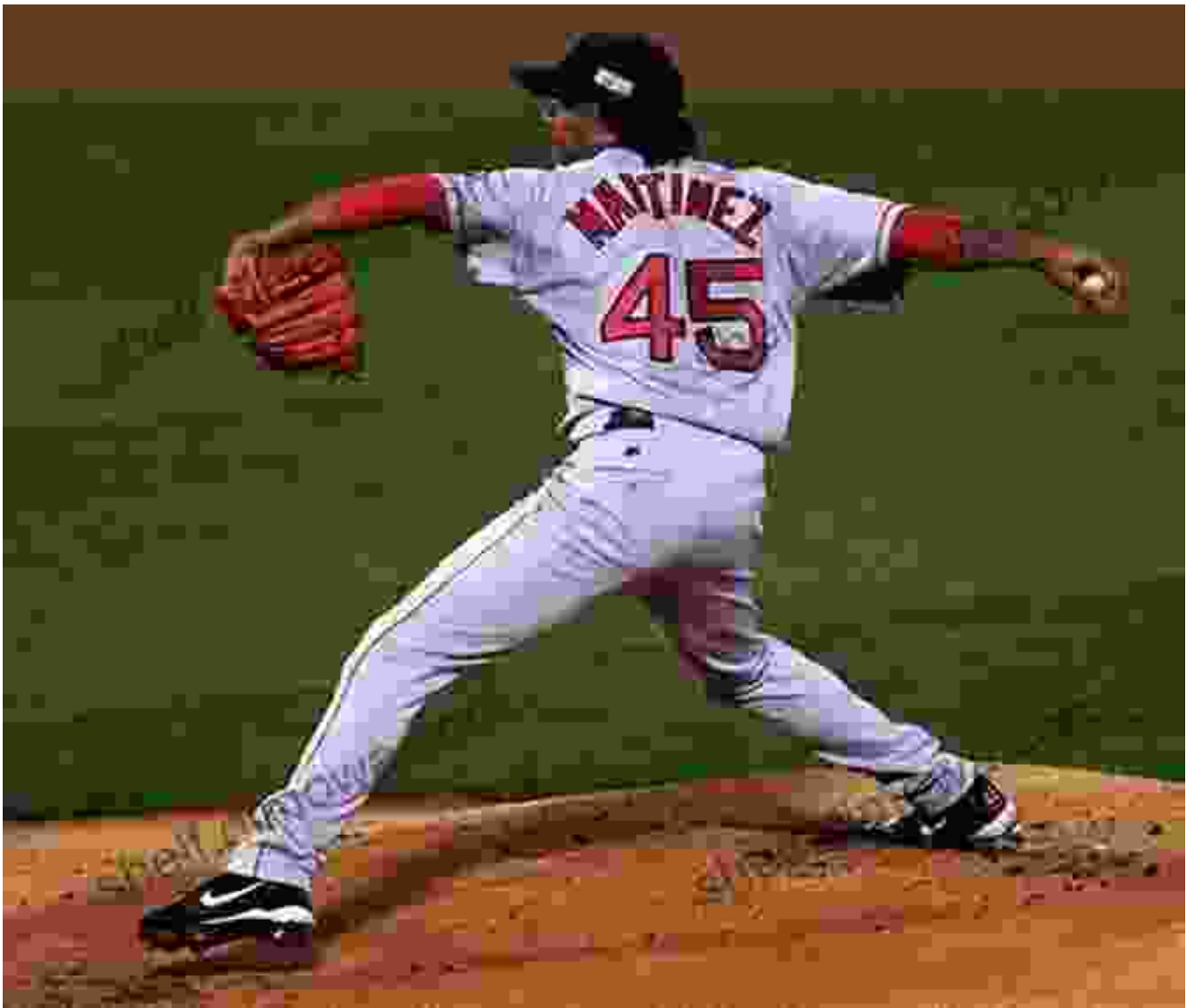


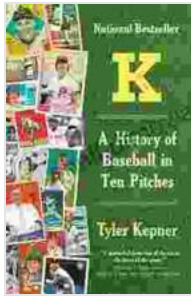
Mariano Rivera's devastating cutter, a pitch that revolutionized the role of the closer and became the most feared weapon in baseball during the late 1990s and early 2000s.

When Mariano Rivera entered the major leagues in 1995, he was a relatively unknown relief pitcher with a mediocre fastball. But everything changed in 1996 when he developed a devastating cutter, a pitch that

darted and cut away from right-handed batters, making it nearly impossible to hit. Rivera's cutter became his signature pitch, and he used it to dominate hitters for nearly two decades. He was a key member of the New York Yankees' dynasty of the late 1990s and early 2000s, and he helped the team win five World Series championships. Rivera's cutter is widely considered to be one of the greatest pitches in baseball history, and it revolutionized the role of the closer.

5. Pedro Martinez's Changeup (1997-2009)





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