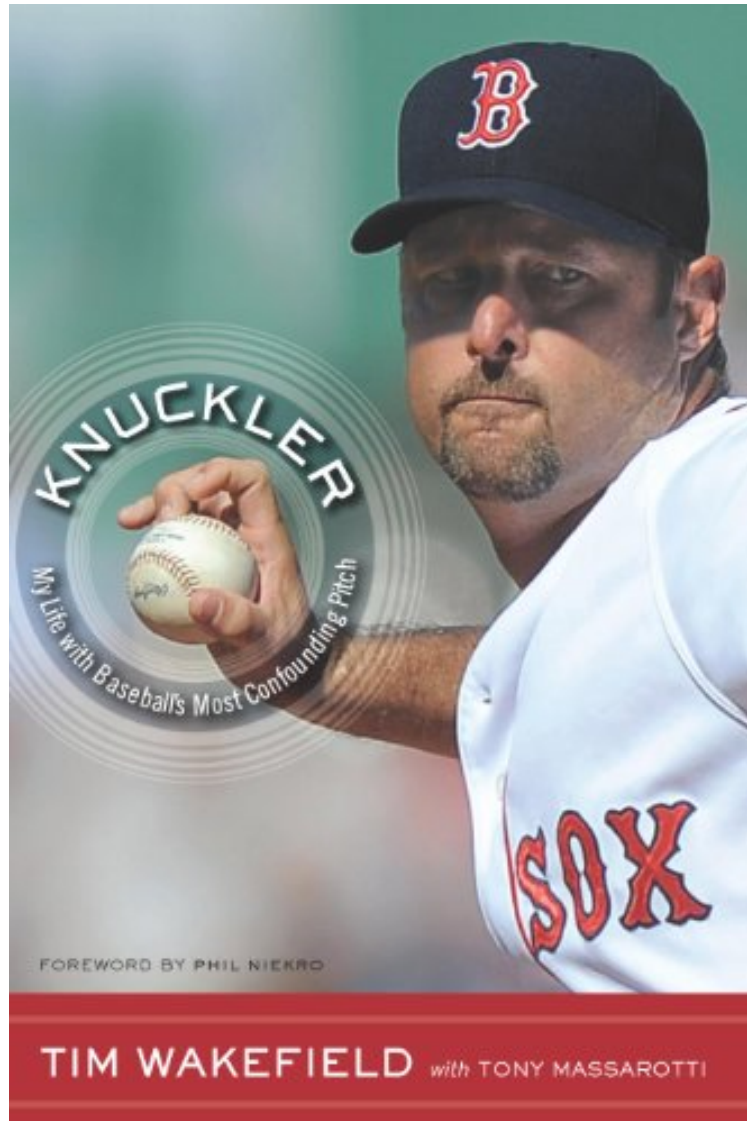


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Knuckler: My Life with Baseball's Most Confounding Pitch

Von Tim Wakefield

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Von Tim Wakefield : Knuckler: My Life with Baseball's Most Confounding Pitch before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Knuckler: My Life with Baseball's Most Confounding Pitch:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Solid Biography of a Great Pitcher and Wonderful Human BeingVon Donald Mitchell"Now a wind went out from the Lord, and it brought quail from the sea and left them fluttering near the camp, about a day's journey on this side and about a

day's journey on the other side, all around the camp, and about two cubits above the surface of the ground." -- Numbers 11:31 (NKJV) Having enjoyed watching Tim Wakefield tease and frustrate opposing pitchers for so many years, it was great fun to read about his career with an emphasis on his perspective in how to succeed for many years in the Show with just one difficult pitch, one that's hard to throw . . . as well as hard to hit. I wanted to stand up and cheer in the places where Wake provided almost all of the Red Sox winning pitches during difficult stretches. I wanted to give him a hug while reading about the times he bailed out the starters . . . and the bullpen . . . by piling up the innings when no one else could. The big disappointment about the book is that it's written as a biography rather than as an autobiography with lots of entertaining quotes about what the experiences were like. A minor disappointment was found in the lack of interviews with those who swung, swung, and swung and missed . . . in key situations when Wake's knuckler was dancing unusually well. It's a fine biography . . . but much of this book will be most appealing to those who don't know Wake's amazing career very well. Give this book to your grandchildren. They won't believe his accomplishments without some explanation about what a knuckle ball is, an increasing rarity in major league parks.

Kurzbeschreibung At forty-four years old, Tim Wakefield is the longest-serving member of one of baseball's most popular franchises. He is close to eclipsing the winning records of two of the greatest pitchers to have played the game, yet few realize the full measure of his success. That his career can be characterized by such words as dependability and consistency defies all odds because he has achieved this with baseball's most mercurial weapon, the knuckleball. *Knuckler* is the story of how a struggling position player bet his future on a fickle pitch that would define his career. The pitch may drive hitters crazy, but how does the pitcher stay sane? The moment Wakefield adopted the knuckleball, his career sought to answer that question. With the Red Sox, Wakefield began to master his pitch only to find himself on the mound in 2003 for one of the worst post-season losses in history, followed the next year by one of the most vindicating of championships. Even now, as Wakefield battles, we see the twists and turns of a major league career pushed to its ultimate extreme. A remarkable story of one player's success despite being the exception to every rule, *Knuckler* is also a lively meditation on the dancing pitch, its history, its mystique, and all the ironies it brings to bear. *Pressestimmen* "An incredibly intelligent, self-aware glimpse inside an admirable career. The preseason pick for best baseball book of the season." *Booklist* (starred review) "A must-read." -- *Boston Globe* *Knuckler* is a terrific book about one of baseball's most underrated pitchers, not to mention baseball's most misunderstood pitch. There are wonderful stories and anecdotes here, but it's also a portrait of a humble, caring man who has carved out a special niche for himself. If you love baseball (not just Red Sox baseball), *Knuckler* is for you. If you don't care a hang about baseball, but like stories about exceptionally talented people behaving decently, *Knuckler* is also for you. And if you're sick to death of sports stories about athletes behaving badly, Tim Wakefield's book is the perfect antidote. *Stephen King* To read *Knuckler* is to appreciate that there is no gimmick, no fluke, no chance to Tim Wakefield approaching 200 wins and 20 major league seasons. This book is about resiliency, diligence and the tunnel vision required to live by what appears to be the most fanciful pitch thrown by man." Peter Gammons, MLB baseball analyst and member of the National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame "Tim Wakefield's *Knuckler* is a fastball right down the middle of the plate. It is an honest, straightforward and very enjoyable account of the national pastime. Allan H. (Bud) Selig, Commissioner of Baseball "I have always admired Tim Wakefield, as he plays baseball with a great deal of integrity, the way the game should be played. *Knuckler* gives readers a rare glimpse at the man behind the baseball and his remarkable work on and off the field." Carlton Fisk, Hall of Fame catcher "Competent and entertaining, Wakefield's book is one to savor, especially for the stat-obsessed baseball fan and the novice pitcher in search of a knuckleball to call his own." *Publishers Weekly* "Provides valuable insights on perseverance, professionalism, and the ability to forget the last pitch." *Library Journal*