

Babe and Me

Dan Gutman

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One of baseball's greatest legends is that of Babe Ruth's 1932 "called shot". Some people say that during his at bat in the 5th inning of Game 3 of the 1932 World Series, Babe Ruth, the greatest baseball legend of all time, pointed to centerfield indicating that was where he was going to hit the ball. Sure enough, on the next pitch Ruth hit the ball over 490 feet to silence the Chicago Cubs crowd and seal the game for his New York Yankees. Joe Stoshack (Stosh) goes back in time (a special ability he has with baseball cards) with his father to find whether Ruth truly did call his shot or not. They end up meeting Ruth right after an angry fanatic almost kills them with a knife, Ruth assuming that they just saved him from an assassination attempt. Joe's dad gets Ruth to sign a huge sack of baseballs, hoping to take them back into the future and sell them to pay for himself (he was recently laid off). They then together, with Ruth, go to the ball game where, side tracked, Stosh's dad, a Polish, sees future President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the stands and tries to warn him about the impending World War 2 and the Holocaust. The security guards see him as an assassin and take him away for questioning, Stosh watching the game and discovering that Ruth really did call his shot. Afterwards, reunited with his dad, they return to the present where Stosh hits a game-winning home run mirroring what Ruth had done. Stosh's father's sack of baseballs was confiscated yet he feels no remorse as he finally got some time to spend with his son, something that rarely, if ever, happens.

This is a book I recommend for any young baseball fan. Babe Ruth was probably the greatest legend of the National Pastime ever, his shadow and spirit living on in every field and bat today. This book takes into account one of the biggest legends associated with the baseball great and presents it in an easygoing writing as well as giving a humanistic voice to the man who made baseball the national pastime.

Recommended Titles:

The Kid Who Became President – Dan Gutman

The Kid Who Ran for President – Dan Gutman

Shoeless Joe and Me – Dan Gutman

Honus and Me – Dan Gutman