



Lefty: An American Odyssey

Vernona Gomez, Lawrence Goldstone

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“An intimate portrait of a man whose life off the field was equally as captivating as his unparalleled baseball career.”—*Yankees Magazine*

Born into a small-town California ranching family, Vernon “Lefty” Gomez rode his powerful arm and jocular personality across America to the dugout of the New York Yankees. Lefty baffled hitters with his blazing fastball, establishing himself as the team’s ace. Now, drawing on countless conversations with Lefty, more than three hundred interviews conducted with his family, friends, competitors, and teammates over the course of a decade, and revealing candid photos, documents, and film clips—many never shown publicly—his daughter Vernona Gomez and her award-winning co-author Lawrence Goldstone vividly re-create the life and adventures of the irreverent southpaw. A star-studded romp through America’s most glamorous years, with cameos from Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, Lou Gehrig, George Gershwin, Ernest Hemingway, and Marilyn Monroe, *Lefty* is at once a long-overdue reminder of a pitcher’s greatness and a heartwarming celebration of a life well-lived.

“His story transcends sports and gives us a much-needed lesson in grit and grace.”—Jon Meacham

“A loving and beautifully written tribute . . . Be prepared to be transformed, and to discover stars who were stars in an age when that word really meant something.”—Mike Greenberg, co-host of ESPN’s *Mike and Mike in the Morning*

“An amiable portrait of a baseball great—like Yogi Berra, Dizzy Dean and Satchel Paige—whose outsized personality looms even larger than his considerable athletic achievements.”—*Kirkus Reviews*

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