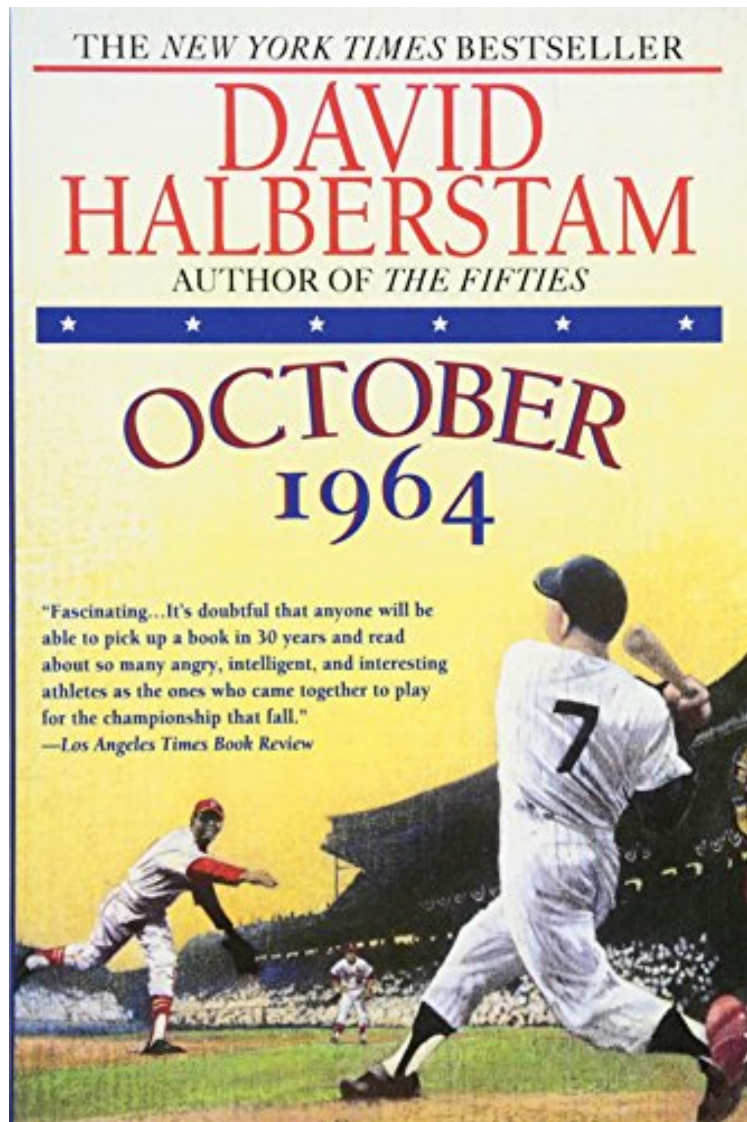


October 1964

David Halberstam

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David Halberstam : October 1964 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised October 1964:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Read this awesome baseball book !!! By Charles M. Acord I'm a life-long Cardinal fan. I was 13 in 1964, and I don't remember anything about that season except that we were playing dismally, well under .500, and then we got Lou Brock and the team caught fire - the rest is history. Until I did some research, I remembered that we were 12 games behind with 14 games to play, we won all 14 and the Phillies lost their last 10. Actually, my memory had enhanced that finish by a good bit, but we *were* waaay out and wound up winning

most of our games while the Phillies collapsed, enabling the Cards to clinch the pennant (this was the last season before both leagues were broken into divisions and the playoff system was added) on the last day by 1/2 game. This book is somewhat mis-named, as only the last chapter is really about the amazing World Series between the fading Yankees and the surging Cards. The book is really about those two teams, their history, and their condition and actions in 1964 that led to their meeting in the Series. It also has a *lot* of detail and history about the acceptance (or lack of, in the case of the Yankees) of black players in the major leagues. There is also a lot of detail about the owners and management of the two teams. Also, pretty much every player, or at least major player, on the two teams is examined, including their origins and their history up to and including 1964. I learned more about baseball (esp. about scouting and pitching) and these two teams in this book than I knew overall before. It is a "dense" book - I usually could only read a chapter (they are long chapters) a night. I highly recommend it to all serious fans of both teams. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Setting a high standard for other authors

By David W Musal I have been trying to allow myself time to read this book for many years; but always kept putting it off. Now that I have finally read it, I kick myself for waiting so long. I now intend to read more of his books sooner rather than later. Halberstam is not just an author, he truly is a top notch journalist, in the best sense. Recommended for all that are interested in history, no matter the particular category. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read for Baseball Fans

By Craig in IL Enjoyed very much reading this book. The details Halberstam includes on some of my favorite ballplayers are very, very interesting. The attitudes of owners towards their players and managers were eye opening. The differences between 2 ball clubs, Yankees and Cardinals, and how they came to be that way, kept me turning the pages all the way through. At the time of race relation issues in America, it was very interesting to see how "America's past time", in particularly these two powerhouses, played a role in their winning or not. More is covered here than just the 1964 World Series. Much baseball history is examined leading up to those years and following 1964. Other teams are included, as to how they were handling various situations and finishing their pennant drive. If you followed Major League Baseball, then or now, you will enjoy this book.

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER THE BEST SPORTS BOOK OF THE YEAR "October 1964 should be a hit with old-time baseball fans, who'll relish the opportunity to relive that year's to-die-for World Series, when the dynastic but aging New York Yankees squared off against the upstart St. Louis Cardinals. It should be a hit with younger students of the game, who'll eat up the vivid portrayals of legends like Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris of the Yankees and Bob Gibson and Lou Brock of the Cardinals. Most of all, however, David Halberstam's new book should be a hit with anyone interested in understanding the important interplay between sports and society."--The Boston Globe "Compelling...1964 is a chronicle of the end of a great dynasty and of a game, like the country, on the cusp of enormous change."--Newsweek "Halberstam's latest gives us the feeling of actually being there--in another time, in the locker rooms and in the minds of baseball legends. His time and effort researching the book result in a fluency with his topic and a fluidity of writing that make the reading almost effortless....Absorbing."--San Francisco Chronicle "Wonderful...Memorable...Halberstam describes the final game of the 1964 series accurately and so dramatically, I almost thought I had forgotten the ending."--The Washington Post Book World "Superb reporting...Incisive analysis...You know from the start that Halberstam is going to focus on a large human canvas...One of the many joys of this book is the humanity with which Halberstam explores the characters as well as the talents of the players, coaches and managers. These are not demigods of summer but flawed, believable human beings who on occasion can rise to peaks of heroism."--Chicago Sun-Times

.com Heroes have a habit of growing larger over time, as do the arenas in which they excelled. The 1964 World Series between the Yankees and Cardinals was coated in myth from the get-go. The Yankees represented the establishment: white, powerful, and seemingly invincible. The victorious Cards, on the other hand, were baseball's rebellious future: angry and defiant, black, and challenging. Their seven-game barnburner, played out against a backdrop of an America emerging from the Kennedy assassination, escalating the war in Vietnam, and struggling with civil rights, marked a turning point--neither the nation, nor baseball, would ever be quite so innocent again. Halberstam, one of the great reporters of the '60s, looks back in this marvelous and spirited elegy to the era, the game, and players such as Mantle, Maris, Ford, Gibson, Brock, and Flood with a clear eye in search of the truth that time has blurred into legend. His confident prose, diligent reporting, and deft analysis make it clear how much more interesting--and forceful--the truth can be.

From Library Journal This follow-up to the best-selling Summer of '49 assesses the Yankee-Cardinal World Series of 1964. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist TITLR Halberstam, David. Pulitzer Prize-winner Halberstam has always had a fondness for sports, and occasionally he turns away from his more "serious" historical pursuits to explore a particularly resonant moment in sporting time. Here it's the 1964 major-league baseball season, especially the World Series, which pitted the New York Yankees against the St. Louis Cardinals. Halberstam likes to place his sports reporting within a significant social context, and this time he isolates 1964--the last pennant for the Yankee dynasty that stretched back to Babe Ruth and the late 1920s--as signifying the end of an era dominated by mostly white, power-hitting baseball. The Cardinals, with their three black starters in the

field and All-Star pitcher Bob Gibson, were ushering in a new era of speed and black stars. Halberstam wants to hang his hat on the theory that baseball changed dramatically in 1964, and though he seems to be stretching a bit, let's give it to him. What really matters to most readers, after all, isn't the historical premise but the particulars: Halberstam's unerring eye for detail, his sense of team dynamics, and his sensitive, thoughtful profiles of the players and managers--including Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Whitey Ford, and Elston Howard on the Yanks and Bob Gibson, Curt Flood, Bill White, and Lou Brock on the Cards. Halberstam profiles each at length, how their past shaped their present and future, and he does the same with the teams. By any standard, this is a thoughtful, entertaining, and illuminating examination of two intriguing teams from baseball's golden era. Expect high demand among boomer-age fans.