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The Iowa Baseball Confederacy: A Novel

By W. P. Kinsella



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Bearing W.P. Kinsella's trademark combination of "sweet-natured prose and a richly imagined world" (Philadelphia Inquirer), The Iowa Baseball Confederacy tells the story of Gideon Clark, a man on a quest. He is out to prove to the world that the indomitable Chicago Cubs traveled to Iowa in the summer of 1908 for an exhibition game against an amateur league, the Iowa Baseball Confederacy. But a simple game somehow turned into a titanic battle of more than two thousand innings, and Gideon Clark struggles to set the record straight on this infamous game that no one else believes ever happened.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

On the day he met his true love, a carnival performer named Darling Maudie, Matthew Clarke was literally struck by lightning and magically imbued with the knowledge that in 1908 the Chicago Cubs had traveled to Onamata, Iowa, to play a seemingly endless game against an all-star amateur team, the Iowa Baseball Confederacy. He spends the rest of his life trying to prove this fact to the world even writing a dissertation on it but no one else remembers the Confederacy or the game. When Matthew commits an imaginative suicide (by allowing himself to be hit by a stray line drive), his son Gideon, the hero of this tale, inherits his father's obsession. With the help of an old family friend who has a glimmer of memory of the game, Gideon and a friend, Stan, travel back through time to 1908, to witness the event and to learn about the mysterious forces that caused a memory lapse in those who witnessed it. In his first novel since *Shoeless Joe*, Kinsella returns to the magical turf he created there: a loving mixture of baseball, life and fantasy, in a world where dreams don't have to come true, because they have a validity all their own.

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Review

"A memorable addition to the literature about the summer's game...A riveting mystery with a host of fascinating characters, a first-rate ghost story, and the tale of a quest that ends not with the object of desire, but with the realization of love. Kinsella has another hit on his hands. He's still batting one thousand."

-- the Detroit Press

"Freighted with mythical machinery, *The Iowa Baseball Confederacy* requires the leavening of some sprightly prose. Kinsella is equal to it. His love for baseball is evident in the lyrical descriptions of the game."

-- Chicago Tribune

"Whether or not you like baseball, read the Bible, play a musical instrument, like Indian folklore, time travel, or the Chicago Cubs, you will like *The Iowa Baseball Confederacy*."

-- USA Today

From the Trade Paperback edition.

From the Inside Flap

Gideon Clarke is out to prove to anyone who will listen, that the champion Chicago Cubs actually traveled to Onamta, Iowa, in the summer of 1908 for an exhibition game against the all-stars from the Iowa Baseball Confederacy that lasted 2,000 incredible innings in the rain. No one remembers but Gideon is determined to remind them....

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Stephanie Cromwell:

Book is written, printed, or outlined for everything. You can learn everything you want by a e-book. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A reserve The Iowa Baseball Confederacy: A Novel will make you to be smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think which open or reading any book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or appropriate book with you?

Glenn Remaley:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a reserve. The book The Iowa Baseball Confederacy: A Novel it is quite good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

Marilyn Chambers:

The reason why? Because this The Iowa Baseball Confederacy: A Novel is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap that but latter it will zap you with the secret it inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I have been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

Ronald Ruggles:

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