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Sayonara Home Run!: The Art of the Japanese Baseball Card

John Gall, Gary Engel

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John Gall, Gary Engel : Sayonara Home Run!: The Art of the Japanese Baseball Card before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sayonara Home Run!: The Art of the Japanese Baseball Card:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great art book....By Michael ValdivielsoSayonara Home Run! The Art Of Japanese Baseball Card is a lovely book that gives you the history and development of baseball cards and related baseball collectibles. While it does not really get into a detailed history of the game itself it does give you a basic background of how it got started in Japan and, if you know American baseball, does compare how it is different

or similar. Not knowing the history of American baseball or understanding how they rate players a lot of it went over my head. I can't really blame the book for that and do plan to correct my lack of information by reading a book on the history of American baseball. They even have small bios on the base Japanese players and some team histories. BUT the book itself does have a flaw. The pages are thick, heavy paper, sown together and very solid. But the wonderful cover is glued on and came right off after only a few days. I am NOT rough with my books and there is really nothing that could explain this outside of the fact that the glue became too dry to keep the cover on the book. This is a shame because if the book had a better cover or maybe was a hard cover book it would have made a great coffee book and a great gift to those interested in either baseball cards or Japanese baseball. It is kind of sad that they went cheap on such a major detail. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's a winner! By LKPI was doing a Google Image Search on Japanese graphics, and came across one of the images from this book. As a graphic designer, illustrator, and baseball fan, I was curious to see more and ordered a good-condition-used copy of this book. I think it is terrific. A quality paperback book, wonderfully designed, and absolutely chock-FULL of amazing graphic examples of Japanese baseball cards. Is the topic a bit "esoteric"? -- Maybe, but I think many people who are interested in ephemera and vintage graphics tend to have esoteric tastes and interests. Offbeat, well-designed books (especially affordable books like this) are like visual vitamins in my art studio.... This book is a winner. 8 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A Beautiful and Informative Book By ochiaiVinatge Japanese baseball cards are among the most beautiful baseball collectibles in the world. I discovered these treasures over ten years ago during a trip to Japan and became an avid collector. My passion for the cards eventually led to a on-line card business and a career as a baseball writer. John Gall and Gary Engel's new book Sayonara Homerun! depicts hundreds, if not thousands, of these beautiful cards. The book's presentation is wonderful. Cards are gracefully portrayed as art but the accompanying text will satisfy both baseball card collectors and fans of Japanese baseball. If you are an American baseball cards collector, come see what you are missing. If you a fan of Japanese baseball, come see great pictures of your favorite stars. I spend hours paging through this book and expect that you will enjoy it as much as I have.

With talented young Japanese players signing to the American Majors, interest in Japanese baseball is at an all-time high. Sayonara Home Run! introduces curious fans to Japan's national pastime through the lens of the country's playfully beautiful baseball cards. A fascinating text traces the roots and cross-cultural history of the Japanese game, while hundreds of illustrations showcase gorgeous vintage cards. Woven throughout are profiles of key Japanese players, features on important U.S. team tours of Japan (with Japanese cards of players such as Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio), and insights into the social history of the cards. Including primers on Japanese player nicknames and baseball terms, and the fine points of the Japanese game, Sayonara Home Run! is a must-have for anyone interested in baseball, Japan, or this unique chapter in popular design.

About the Author John Gall is the art director for Vintage/Anchor Books. He lives in Maplewood, New Jersey. Gary Engel is a collector, dealer, and noted authority on Japanese baseball cards. He lives in Southern California. Steven Heller is the author of ninety books on design and popular culture.