



# Beyond the Game: The Collected Sportswriting of Gary Smith

*Gary Smith*

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## **Beyond the Game: The Collected Sportswriting of Gary Smith** Gary Smith

In *Beyond the Game*, Gary Smith has selected his greatest stories to appear together for the first time. There is "Damned Yankee," the heartbreaking story of John Malangone, a man who seemed destined to succeed Yogi Berra as the Yankees' starting catcher -- until his career was destroyed by the crushing weight of a childhood trauma that haunted him. "Someone to Lean On" is the inspiring story of an extraordinary retarded man named Radio and the South Carolina high school football team that has adopted him for over thirty years. The award-winning "Crime and Punishment" explores the controversy surrounding Richie Parker, a high school basketball star in New York whose conviction for a sex offense derails his dreams and sets off an explosive chain reaction that follows him everywhere he seeks redemption. *Beyond the Game* is not just a collection of great sportswriting. It is a collection of great writing, period. Each of Smith's stories -- of dreams and fears, failure and triumph, self-destruction and salvation -- will profoundly touch you and remain with you long after you have closed the pages of the book.

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