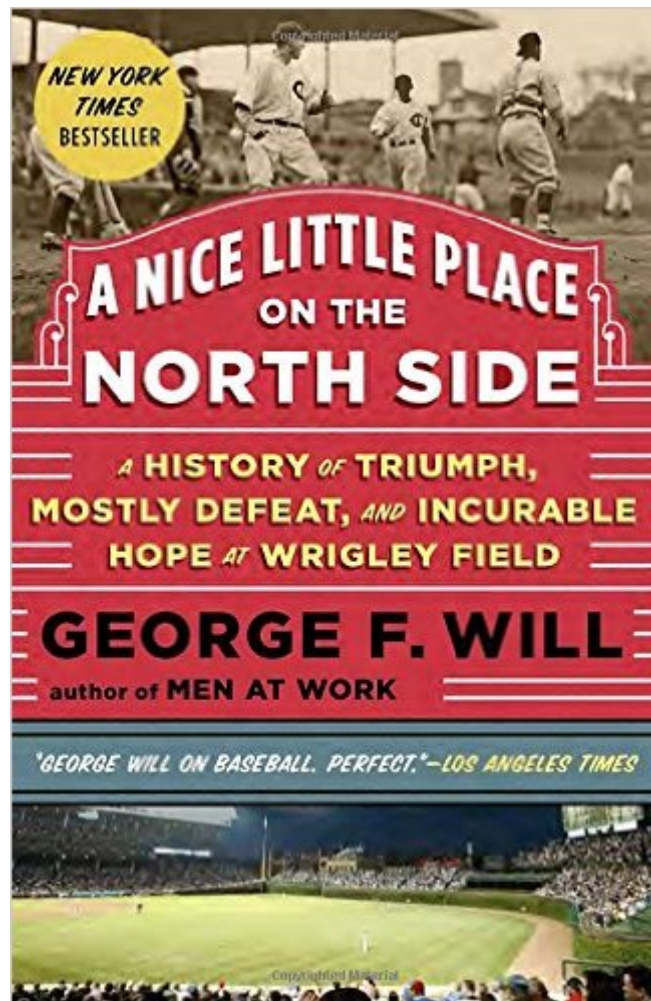


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A Nice Little Place On The North Side: A History Of Triumph, Mostly Defeat, And Incurable Hope At Wrigley Field



Synopsis

“George Will on baseball. Perfect.” —Los Angeles Times

In A Nice Little Place on the North Side, leading columnist George Will returns to baseball with a deeply personal look at his hapless Chicago Cubs and their often beatified home, Wrigley Field, as it turns one hundred years old. Baseball, Will argues, is full of metaphors for life, religion, and happiness, and Wrigley is considered one of its sacred spaces. But what is its true, hyperbole-free history? Winding beautifully like Wrigley’s iconic ivy, Will’s meditation on *The Friendly Confines* examines both the unforgettable stories that forged the field’s legend and the larger-than-life characters “from Wrigley and Ruth to Veeck, Durocher, and Banks” who brought it glory, heartbreak, and scandal. Drawing upon his trademark knowledge and inimitable sense of humor, Will also explores his childhood connections to the team, the Cubs’ future, and what keeps long-suffering fans rooting for the home team after so many years of futility. In the end, *A Nice Little Place on the North Side* is more than just the history of a ballpark. It is the story of Chicago, of baseball, and of America itself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In baseball, the difference between excellence and mediocrity is usually not the blockbuster signing of this or that free agent. Rather, it is the cumulative effect of management’s attention to scouting, player development, and so on—which requires time, effort and, always, money. Because Cubs fans fill so many seats no matter what is happening on the field, there is a reduced incentive to pay the expense of organizational excellence. — page 136

And that, according to author George Will appears to be the gist of the problem. For baseball fans in the Windy City and for

people all across the fruited plain Wrigley Field has become something akin to a shrine. There is a certain mystique about the place that attracts both avid fans and curious tourists, some of whom have little interest in what was once the national pastime. As Wrigley Field turns 100 in 2014 George Will thought it might be an appropriate time to recall its fascinating and sometimes bizarre history. He has scribbled his thoughts into a neat little book he calls *A Nice Little Place on the North Side: Wrigley Field at One Hundred*. This is a book destined to be great summer reading for sports fans, history buffs and general readers alike. Will conjures up a ton of fun facts, interesting tidbits and unforgettable yarns. As a lifetime baseball junkie I must tell you that I had a difficult time putting this one down. Having been an ardent Cubs fan since 1948 George Will has pretty much seen it all "everything that is except his beloved Cubs playing in a World Series. In *A Nice Little Place on the North Side* Will recalls many of the memorable events and incidents from the sixty plus years he has been following the team.

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