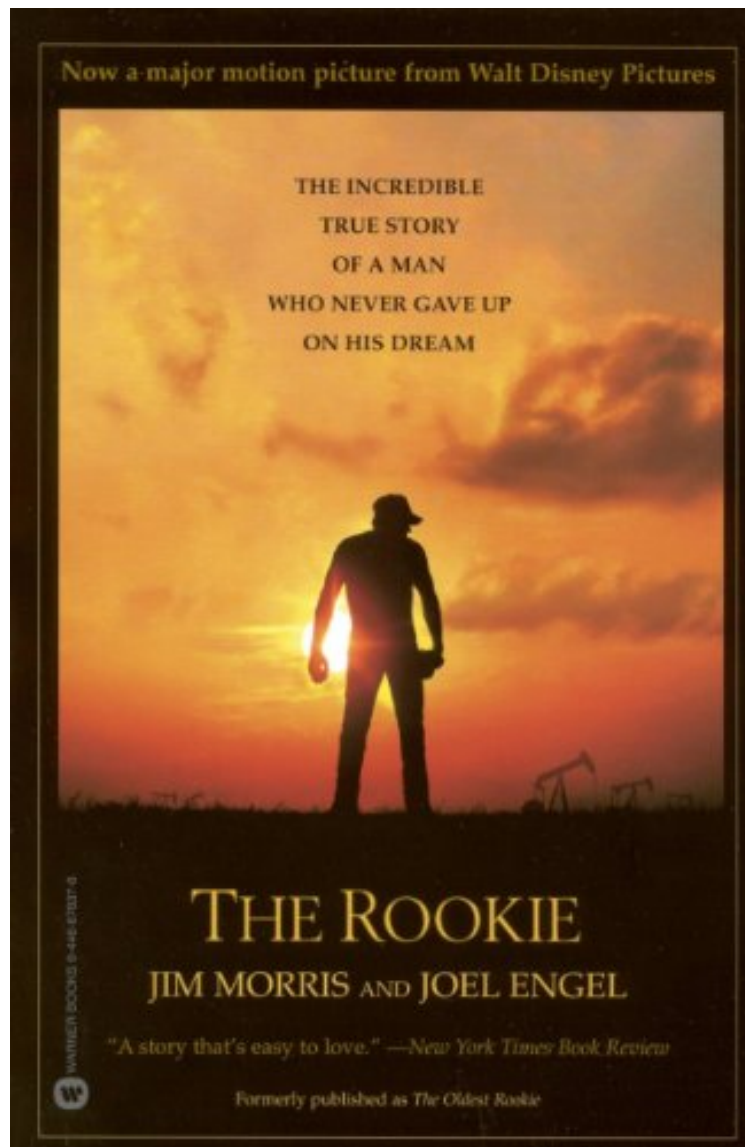


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The Rookie: The Incredible True Story of a Man Who Never Gave Up on His Dream (English Edition)

Von Jim Morris, Joel Engel

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Von Jim Morris, Joel Engel : The Rookie: The Incredible True Story of a Man Who Never Gave Up on His Dream (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rookie: The Incredible True Story of a Man Who Never Gave Up on His Dream (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. More Heat! Von Donald Mitchell Most people cannot throw a baseball very fast when they are young. Gradually, they get faster and faster. At some point, they get slower and slower as injuries and wear affect the arm. Jim Morris had the opposite experience. Despite many injuries, he was throwing a 98 mile an hour fastball long after most pitchers are only playing catch with their youngsters in the backyard. When he was younger, a 90 mile an hour fastball was the best he could muster. That had gotten him many opportunities in the minors, but the injuries cut those short. Soon, with his newfound speed, he made it into the Big Show with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in September 1999. His first appearance in relief made him the oldest rookie in the majors in several decades. This is his story. Although the context is major league baseball, this book is really focused on a man finding his identity. That task was complicated for Mr. Morris by having parents who were not too fond of each other, having to move frequently with his father's reassignments in the navy, and not having a clear idea of what his goals in life and values were. The one credo that stuck was one from his grandfather Ernest, "Remember who you are." It took him a long time to figure out who he was, in order to follow that credo. He had loved baseball from the age of 3. His mother and grandmother would play catch with him while his father was at sea. By age 7, he could throw a baseball 230 feet in the air from the outfield. His playmates were older boys, as a result. His parent's dream was for him to play high school football, so his baseball career got short shrift until the end of high school when his speed got him a contract and a signing bonus with the Brewers. Minor league baseball was a problem for him, because he never had had the coaching to know how to play the game. So he was injured a lot, and suffered lots of pain and rehabilitation. Through this, he tried to go to school. Long past 30, he was still working on his college degree. The turnaround in his life came when he challenged the high school team he was coaching to make the most out of their talent. They challenged him in turn to try out one more time if the team won the district championship. When they did, he kept his word, and that was the beginning of his most recent return to baseball. Much of the book recounts the difficulties that he and his wife went through in raising three children, trying to juggle two careers, and finding a decent life together. The marriage was on the rocks several times, but Mr. Morris's hard-working wife hung in there as did Mr. Morris. A lot of the book's appeal is that Mr. Morris is everyman in many ways, but just with an amazing arm. The key weakness of the book is that it dwells too much on the details of Mr. Morris's life leading up to the baseball triumph. There are some fascinating baseball stories here in the book, like when he struck out Mark McGwire while in the minors (in a year when he was 5-6 with an e.r.a. of 6.04). The book could have used more cameos of famous players and managers, or stories like this one. Also, Mr. Morris is not much of a communicator, so he doesn't share a lot. "I don't have much to say . . ." He says that his wife complains because he is so quiet. That makes it tough for creating a book. The book is confusing in many areas because the dates and lengths of time stated often don't seem to match. But that problem is not important, just mildly annoying. But Mr. Morris definitely deserves five stars, and his wife deserves more than that. Where have you given up on something you love to do? I challenge you to find a new way to take it up again. Grasp all the joy you can find, and share it with everyone you love! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Gut verstandliches Buch! Von Michael Scherrmann Eine wahre Geschichte, die nicht nur Baseball-Fans bewegt und fasziniert, sondern alle, die noch Trume haben und nicht glauben diese verwirklichen zu knnen!

Kurzbeschreibung He Played A Boy's Game. He Lived A Man's Life. As a lonely child, Jim Morris took one thing with him wherever his family moved-his ability to hit and throw a baseball. For Jim, the passion of becoming a major-league ballplayer was his anchor and inspiration...until injuries and life got in the way. A decade after Jim walked away from the minors and began a life of fatherhood and mortgage payments, he made a promise to the hardscrabble high-school team he coached: If they could win their local championship, he would try out again for the big leagues. They did-and he did. Now, in this wondrous, heart-tugging book, Jim Morris tells the story of his remarkable life and his amazing journey to the Big Show at the age of thirty-five...and how he finally fulfilled his childhood dream. From Booklist You really can't make this stuff up: a kid who so loves throwing a ball that, at three, he takes his ball and bat to bed with him; an army brat who learns early that he can make friends and fit in if he follows the church of high-school athletics (the football denomination); a guy whose time in the minors sours in a sea of pain, poverty, and surgery. Morris has a coauthor, but you can't fake the utter guyness of him: charming, homespun, real. The dark side of team sports fights with the glory, and by the time the players on the high-school baseball team he coached make him promise that if they make the playoffs, he has to try for the majors one more time, you are as delirious with joy and fear as he is. And they do, and he does, and he strikes out Royce Clayton of the Rangers on the mound in his Tampa Bay Devil Rays uniform. What makes this more even than the baseball dream trajectory it traces, though, is the reality of Morris' life: how hard things were and are; how tough his last fling at the big time was on his marriage; and how very funny he manages to be. A fabulous baseball story and a fabulous story, period. Grace Anne DeCandido Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From Library Journal This inspiring true story should do well in young adult collections. Morris, a 35-year-old Texas high school physics teacher and baseball coach

(whose previous attempts to break into the bigs fell short), was challenged by his students to live up to his dream. Oddly, his pitching arm had only grown stronger with time, and at a new major league tryout his pitches were consistently overpowering. After making the expansion Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Morris was featured in Time, People, and Sports Illustrated. His incredible story about second chances will circulate well in most libraries. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.