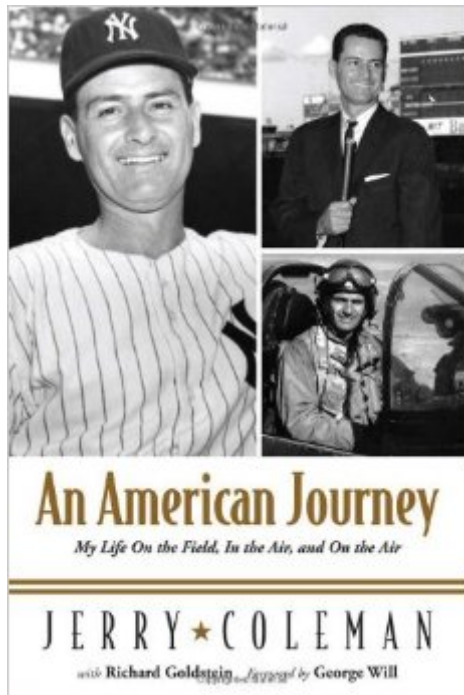


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# An American Journey: My Life On The Field, In The Air, And On The Air



## Synopsis

In *An American Journey*, Jerry Coleman, along with journalist Richard Goldstein, writes for the first time about the family violence and the hardship he endured as a child, his memories of serving in two armed conflicts, and what it was like playing professional baseball with Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle, and Joe DiMaggio. Coleman is also unflinchingly honest about his short managing career and provides a behind-the-scenes look at his many years in the broadcast booth.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jerry Coleman has honorably served America both as a military man, as a baseball player during the 1950's for the New York Yankees, and as an announcer for the Yankees, CBS, and as an announcer/manager for the San Diego Padres. He considers his greatest achievement in life to be the five years he spent as a marine during both World War II and the Korean War. He grew up in a home with a physically abusive father, and a very devoted mother. His best friends with the Yankees were Allie Reynolds, Vic Raschi, Ed Lopat, Bobby Brown, and Charlie Silvera. Coleman believes Mickey Mantle's alcohol problems became full blown after he retired from the game and the cheering stopped. Coleman vividly recalls the incident in May of 1957 when Yankees' infielder Gil McDougald lined Cleveland Indians' pitcher Herb Score in the eye. This had a great emotional effect on McDougald who considered quitting the game. Coleman's one year at the helm of the Padres did not go well. His players viewed him as the team's announcer, and a relic from the past. Coleman gives his views on various things regarding the game such as the size of players compared to when

he played, and the effect large contracts can have on some players. He blames the players' union for fighting against a strong drug program which has ultimately harmed players who play by the rules. Coleman considers Aaron to be the all-time home run leader with Maris to be the home run leader for a single season. This book is light easy reading, and I enjoyed reading about one of the bubble gum cards of my youth.

George Will presents Jerry Coleman, the man, in his various roles. While the book evokes admiration for Mr. Coleman's military and athletic accomplishments, it is the presentation of his humanity that makes this a worthwhile read. One of the better biographies of a sports figure.

I don't know how many "with." books I have read not 100 but more than fifty. Even wrote two of them. YOGI IT AIN'T OVER WITH YOGI and THE OCTOBER TWELVE with PHIL RIZZUTO. Jerry Coleman's "WITH" RICHARD GOLDSTEIN did an outstanding job. I envy him but not for writing the book. Writing is hard work. Spending time in the company of Jerry Coleman is a joy. A tonic for the soul.

Good account of an interesting life; the only ballplayer who actually saw combat in both WWII and Korea. Would have been better if more willing to "name names" about players he clashed with during brief tenure as manager of Padres, but he was too much of a class act to dish dirt. We could use more like him.

I really enjoy Jerry as an announcer and enjoyed his book immensely. I only wish that he was partnered on the air with a baseball person with a baseball voice over these past 20+ yrs. When he quits I will quit listening to the Padres via radio. Five Stars for Jerry and his disclosures.

A fresh and honest view of the game and how it's been played. Jerry Coleman is a true professional and respected by all!

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