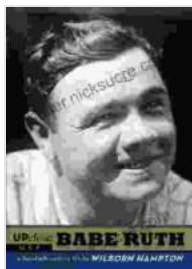


# Babe Ruth Up Close: An Intimate Look at the Life of Baseball Icon Wilborn Hampton



## Early Life and Humble Beginnings

Wilborn Hampton "Babe" Ruth was born on February 6, 1895, in Baltimore, Maryland. Raised in poverty, he spent his early years living in an orphanage. Despite his difficult upbringing, Ruth's love for baseball was evident from a young age.



### **Babe Ruth (Up Close)** by Wilborn Hampton

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1283 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
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Print length

: 220 pages



In 1914, Ruth signed with the Baltimore Orioles, a minor league team. His exceptional pitching and hitting skills quickly caught the attention of the Boston Red Sox, who purchased his contract in 1916.

### **Busting into the Big Leagues**

Ruth's debut with the Red Sox in 1918 marked the beginning of his transformative impact on the game. Initially a left-handed pitcher, he transitioned to the outfield and emerged as a prolific batter.

In 1919, Ruth led the Red Sox to their first World Series championship in 13 years. His 29 home runs that season set a new record and earned him the nickname "The Bambino."

### **The Sultan of Swat**

In 1920, Ruth was sold to the New York Yankees, where he would become one of the most iconic sports figures of all time. Over the next 15 years with the Yankees, Ruth shattered numerous records and cemented his place as the "Sultan of Swat."

Ruth's legendary home run hitting prowess is unmatched. He hit a record 60 home runs in 1927, a feat that would not be surpassed for 34 years.

### **Off-the-Field Controversies**

Beyond his on-field accomplishments, Ruth's personal life was often tumultuous. His excessive lifestyle and frequent run-ins with the media created controversy and made headlines.

Despite his off-field struggles, Ruth's popularity with fans remained unyielding. He was a beloved figure, known for his charisma and outgoing personality.

### **Retirement and Later Years**

Ruth retired from baseball in 1935 after 22 seasons in the Major Leagues. He spent the rest of his life promoting the sport and making guest appearances.

In 1948, Ruth was diagnosed with throat cancer. Despite undergoing surgery and radiation treatment, he passed away on August 16, 1948, at the age of 53.

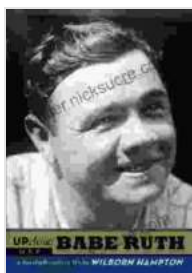
### **Legacy and Impact**

Babe Ruth's legacy extends far beyond the baseball diamond. He is widely regarded as the greatest baseball player of all time and has left an enduring impact on the sport.

- Ruth's home run records stood for decades and continue to inspire generations of players.
- He revolutionized the way the game was played and helped to popularize baseball as the national pastime.
- Ruth's larger-than-life personality and charisma made him a beloved sports icon and a symbol of American optimism.

Today, Babe Ruth's name remains synonymous with excellence and greatness in baseball. His legacy lives on through the Baseball Hall of Fame and the countless young players who dream of following in his footsteps.

Author's Note: This article provides an in-depth exploration of the life and legacy of Babe Ruth. By examining his humble beginnings, record-breaking career, and lasting impact on the sport, it aims to offer a comprehensive understanding of one of the most iconic figures in baseball history.



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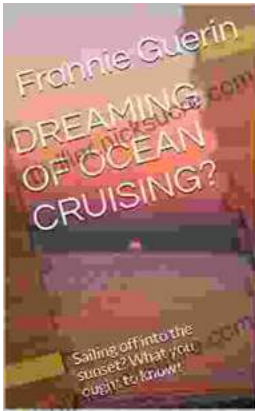
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