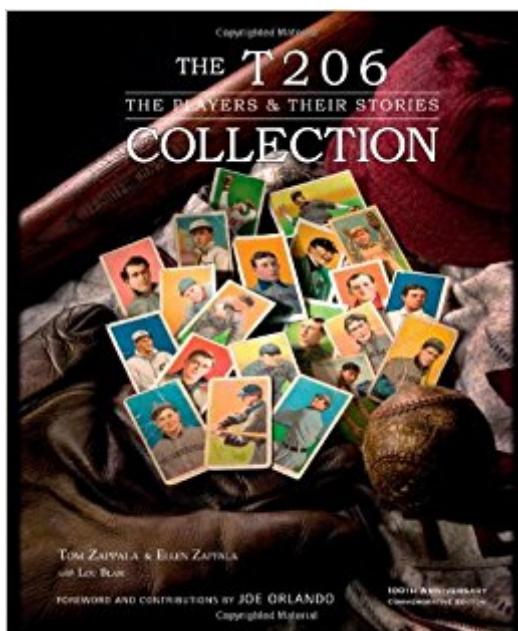


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# The T206 Collection: The Players & Their Stories



## Synopsis

A coffee table reference, which includes personal and professional stats along with a brief biographical narrative for each of the 393 players of the T206 collection, plus over 500, actual size, full color images of the cards. This volume celebrates the 100th anniversary of the cards which were printed between 1909 and 1911, when the popularity of baseball really exploded. From that era came Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Tris Speaker, Nap Lajoie, and Cy Young.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Baseball cards have been around for almost as long as the game itself. The collaborative project of Tom Zappala and Ellen Zappala, and with the assistance of Lou Blasi, *The T206 Collection: The Players & Their Stories* is an impressive 224-page compendium featuring beautifully reproduced images of the early baseball card T206 series featuring 393 players. Enhancing this outstanding collection of 500 baseball cards, each of which is flawlessly reproduced in full color, *The T206 Collection: The Players & Their Stories* includes succinct biographies of all the T206 players, as well as player anecdotes revealing the earliest days and evolution of baseball. Of special note is the informed and informative chapter on baseball card grading and valuations making *The T206 Collection: The Players & Their Stories* an especially valued and valuable addition to both academic, and community library collections – and an absolute 'must' for all dedicated baseball card enthusiasts. (The Midwest Book Review, July 2010)

This is a solid book filled with several interesting facts. And if I could have, I would have rated it a 3

1/2. Just not quite a 4-star, IMO. The pros are that it includes nice photograph and many lesser-known facts about the players. For what it is, I think it's also priced affordably and is a good value. Personally, I would have preferred to have all of the players listed alphabetically. Instead, it's broken out into sections of Hall of Famers, almost Hall of Famers, etc. I'm sure some like that format better, but it can also make finding specific players more difficult. I would have preferred to simply have all of the players alphabetically straight through the entire book. Also, while a handful of statistics are presented for each player, it would have been nice to see full career totals of the important stats for everyone. Overall, it's a nice book that I'd recommend. But a few things could have made it better.

This book is absolutely amazing with so much history and information on the players that make up this incredible card set. Before this book, I was aware of "the card", Honus Wagner, Ty Cobb's recently found "Magnificent Seven" and some other big names from the set! But after reading through the book and leafing through the pages admiring the amazing illustrations and pictures, I have a genuine interest to now collect the T206 (on the modest scale)! I definitely won't shy away or turn my nose up to them like before not knowing the rich history that accompanies this set of tobacco cards! Its a beautiful book with immaculate content! Well done to the authors!!!

Early tobacco cards, particularly the famed T206 White Border series of 1909-1911, evoke the charm, nostalgia, and beauty of the game of baseball. That these cards are special and prized everyone agrees; but it is not simply the value or the perceived rarity that makes them so. It is the gorgeous artwork, the historical significance of baseball in this nascent and formative time, and the background stories of the players that make the T206 collection so special. Few of the players captured on the face of these tiny pieces of cardboard were celebrities of that era -- although a surprising number did go on to the Hall of Fame. They were, in most cases, ordinary young men with colorful stories and fascinating nicknames playing a game at a time when baseball was just becoming America's Pastime. "The T206 Collection: The Players & Their Stories" captures vividly the art, beauty, and legacy of the T206 collection. This volume perfectly represents the essence of tobacco cards through stunning renditions of every one of the 524 cards, colorful stories about each player's background and history, and useful highlights of the collection as it has grown in its mystique over the last century. The authors have done a service to the history of the game and this important collection of cards by honoring the aspects of the T206 that make it so prized -- its art, beauty, and nostalgia. One cannot help but conjure vivid images of baseball at the turn of the 20th

Century when reading about players named Wildfire Schulte (who derived his nickname after becoming enamored with a play called "Wildfire"), Royal "Hunky" Shaw (only one at bat in his major league career and yet he is immortalized on a card of considerable value), and Ginger Beaumont (the first player to ever bat in a World Series game) to name just a few. This book captures their stories and many, many more. This is an exceptional volume and deserves greater praise and reception than it has previously received. Every avid collector of early baseball cards should own this book; but even baseball fans with a casual interest in the game's early years would take pleasure in recounting these vivid tales. The photos and artwork are top quality. The writing is engaging and colorful. I could not recommend this book more and commend the authors.

The layout is clear, with interesting groups of these famous cards. The biographies are short but good summaries. Some are not easy to find in other places. Here all the biographies are together, which is extra helpful if you are looking for quick guides of several players. The book's paper quality really highlights the excellent photography. This is an really extraordinary book, even better than the classic beautiful Topps Guides which are comprehensive, but have no biographical snapshots.

This book is a must for any T206 card collector or anyone that enjoys Baseball history, The Colorful pictures are fantastic. If you plan to invest in vintage Baseball for fun or investment you better have this book right away. great stuff, Jimmy B.

What a great guide to both the T206 cards, as well as the players they picture! The color photos are superb, and the player bios help give the collector a basic knowledge of these early players. Anyone who has an interest in baseball cards should get this top-rate book. The authors have done a great job!

Great book. A must have for any tobacco card collector.

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