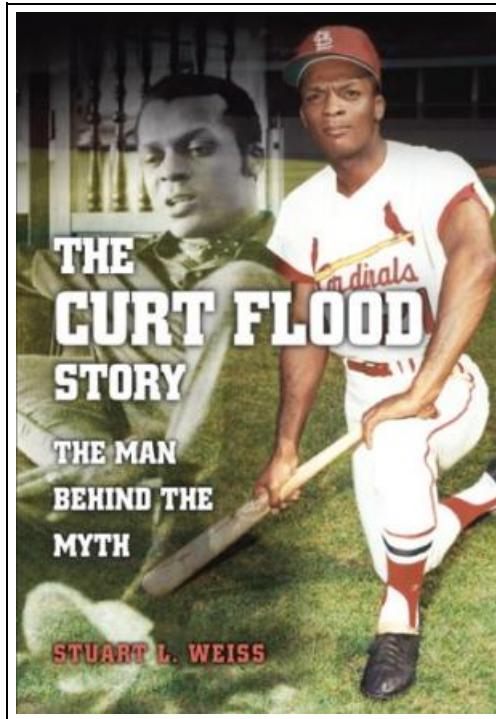


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THE CURT FLOOD STORY: THE MAN BEHIND THE MYTH

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University of Missouri Press. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Curt Flood Story: The Man Behind the Myth, Stuart L. Weiss, Curt Flood, former star center fielder for the St. Louis Cardinals, is a hero to many for selflessly sacrificing his career to challenge baseball's reserve system. Although he lost in the Supreme Court, he has become for many a martyr in the later successful battle for free agency. Sportswriters and fans alike have helped to paint a picture of Flood as a larger-than-life figure, a portrait that, unhappily, cannot stand closer inspection. This book reveals the real Curt Flood - more man than myth. Flood stirred up a hornet's nest by refusing to be traded to another team on the grounds that Major League Baseball's reserve system reduced him to the status of bondage. Flood challenged the legality of a system in which his contract could be traded without his consent and in which he was not at liberty to negotiate his services in an open market. Stuart Weiss explores the span of Flood's life, shedding light on the relationships with those close to him as they helped shape his decision to sue baseball and providing a new perspective on the lawsuit that found its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Although a superb player, Flood was known to be temperamental and sensitive; in bringing his lawsuit he transformed his grievances against the Cardinals, and those in the front office who traded him, into an attack on how the business of big-league ball was conducted. Weiss shows that Flood was far from the stereotypical "dumb jock" but was rather a proud, multifaceted black man in a business run by white moguls. By illuminating Flood's private side, rarely seen by the public, he reveals how Flood misled a gullible...

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