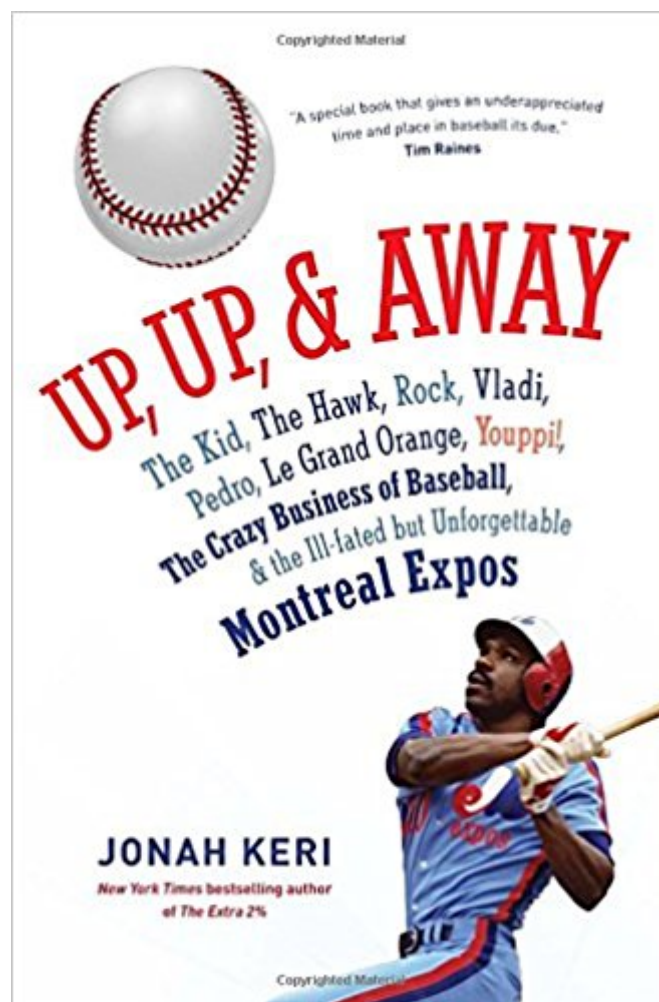




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# Up, Up, And Away: The Kid, The Hawk, Rock, Vladi, Pedro, Le Grand Orange, Youppi!, The Crazy Business Of Baseball, And The Ill-fated But Unforgettable Montreal Expos





## Synopsis

The definitive history of the Montreal Expos by the definitive Expos fan, the New York Times bestselling sportswriter and Grantland columnist Jonah Keri. 2014 is the 20th anniversary of the strike that killed baseball in Montreal, and the 10th anniversary of the team's move to Washington, DC. But the memories aren't dead--not by a long shot. The Expos pinwheel cap is still sported by Montrealers, former fans, and by many more in the US and Canada as a fashion item. Expos loyalists are still spotted at Blue Jays games and wherever the Washington Nationals play (often cheering against them). Every year there are rumours that Montreal--as North America's largest market without a baseball team--could host Major League Baseball again. There has never been a major English-language book on the entire franchise history. There also hasn't been a sportswriter as uniquely qualified to tell the whole story, and to make it appeal to baseball fans across Canada AND south of the border. Jonah Keri writes the chief baseball column for Grantland, and routinely makes appearances in Canadian media such as The Jeff Blair Show, Prime Time Sports and Off the Record. The author of the New York Times baseball bestseller The Extra 2% (Ballantine/ESPN Books), Keri is one of the new generation of high-profile sports writers equally facile with sabermetrics and traditional baseball reporting. He has interviewed everyone for this book (EVERYONE: including the ownership that allowed the team to be moved), and fans can expect to hear from just about every player and personality from the Expos' unforgettable 35 years in baseball. Up, Up, and Away is already one of the most anticipated sports books of next year.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A special book that gives an underappreciated time and place in baseball its due. "Tim

Raines's In Up, Up & Away, Jonah Keri has produced a book that is one part history, one part local legend, one part eulogy, and one part letter to a lost love. The Montreal Expos deserved a book, and they deserved this book.

"Bruce Arthur, national sports columnist, National Post

Long gone but it seems like only yesterday. A certain charm attaches to bygone ballparks and ball clubs: Ebbets Field, the St. Louis Browns, the Seattle Pilots

"supply your own favorite ghost. But for me, the franchise with the most romance about it is the Montreal Expos. Jonah Keri pays tribute, tells tales, spills beans, and wakes the echoes in this glorious grand chelem of a book.

"John Thorn, Official Historian, Major League Baseball

JONAH KERI is a writer for Grantland.com and a contributor to ESPN's Baseball Tonight. He is the author of the New York Times bestseller *The Extra 2%: How Wall Street Strategies Took a Major League Baseball Team from Worst to First* and the co-author of *Baseball Between the Numbers: Why Everything You Know About the Game Is Wrong*. He has previously contributed to ESPN.com, SI.com, Baseball Prospectus, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and wrote the flagship stock market column for Investor's Business Daily.

I'm a fan of Jonah Keri's writing at Grantland. His previous book, "The Extra 2%" was also fantastic. I'm always a little suspect, though, of books written by unabashed fans of the subject they are writing about. However, this was a great piece of writing, a very fair and accurate account of the success and ultimate failure of the Expos franchise, with minimal cheer-leading. When I received my copy this morning, and immediately saw a picture of my favorite player of all-time milking a cow, I knew it was going to be great. And it was. I finished in about 13 hours, and now I'm sad it's over. You don't have to be an Expos fan to appreciate this book, any baseball fan will surely enjoy the story. It's truly unlike any other in sports history.

Great book about the Expos. Goes into detail about how the club came to be, and the ups and downs over many years. More than just a sports book -- great for anyone wanting to learn how a business can or cannot be sustained for a long period of time.

I have been looking forward to this book since I first found out about it. It didn't disappoint! While any baseball fan would enjoy this book, it really is a must read for any Expos fan. I grew up with the Expos and the book brought back many memories. There are also a plethora of stories I didn't know anything about such as the Expos pursuit of Reggie Jackson before he signed with the Yankees.

While some thought since the author was a fan growing up it would take on the slant of homerism, the book does not read that way. In fact, reading Jonah Keri's accounts of going to Expos games add to the book. There are some fun stories about The Maple Ridge Boys that really are a treat. If anything, the book left me thirsting for more on the Expos. Several books are cited as sources in Up, Up & Away and I have purchased one, and will be getting others. I devoured this book - it doesn't seem like a 400 page book because it reads so fast. Once I read the last page and put it down, I was struck with a feeling of sadness, almost as if I lost the team to MLB/Washington all over again. Granted, I grew up an Expos fan so I have a close association with this book, but it honestly is one of the top 5 baseball books I have ever read. I have been trying to read Jonah Keri's other work in my free time and plan on checking out "The Extra 2%" at some point in the future. However, next up for those perhaps unfamiliar with Canadian Danny Gallagher's writing is "Ecstasy to Agony: The Story of the 1994 Montreal Expos." In closing, if you love baseball and great writing - read this book!

This is a wonderful book if you knew and remember the Montreal Expos.

This is a very entertaining and enjoyable book. It provides a great account of the team's history, plus a lot of detailed information on the players and the overall organization. You will enjoy learning about the history of the Expos.

The Montreal Expos provided many interesting stories during their 36 years of existence, both on and off the field. Sportswriter Jonah Keri, who was also a fan of the team, covers their history in this fun-to-read account of the franchise. Starting with the scramble to obtain players and a suitable stadium for the inaugural 1969 season, Keri captures the adventures and misadventures of the franchise with humor, knowledge and the viewpoint that a devoted fan provides, which was surprisingly objective as well. The objectivity comes mainly from describing the many business decisions that resulted in star players leaving. One example is when after the team compiled the best record in the 1994 season in which the World Series was not played due to a player's strike, the ownership group ordered general manager Kevin Malone to dump four of the team's highest paid players in one week. Keri's account of that fire sale did not read like a disgruntled fan's while criticizing the move, he did note that it did achieve the short term goals, but that it was just that a short-sighted glimpse of the situation. His accounts of the eventual ownership by Major League Baseball and his criticism of an ownership

group that would not contribute the required money to keep the operations going that resulted in one man (Jeffrey Loria) obtaining 93% of the team was also surprisingly objective for someone who was a fan of the team. Other business matters such as losing broadcasting rights to the southern Ontario market and only online broadcasting in the early 2000s were covered in the same manner. This doesn't mean that Keri only wrote about the front office. His accounts of the 36 seasons of Expos baseball on the field was just as good, especially when writing about the stars and beloved players who wore the red, white and blue of the team. His prose about the sad story of Ellis Valentine, the heartbreak of "Blue Monday" when Rick Monday homered to propel the Dodgers to victory over the Expos in the 1981 National League Championship Series and the excitement of the surprise run in 1994. Those passages are great reading for any baseball fan, whether or not he or she was an Expos fan. One question that many ask is when was the point where the Expos started to show signs that they were in trouble. Keri's account offers several times both on and off the field, but the most interesting one was when he described the apex of success for the team on the field as the 1982 All-Star game which Montreal hosted. It was at that time when the Expos were having their longest stretch of sustained success and had five players represent them at that All-Star game. While questionable at first to me, he makes a good point why he felt that way. That is an example of what Keri does throughout the book " " makes points of why he believed something happened and uses solid evidence to support that claim. This is a very entertaining and informative book that any reader who is interested in the history of this colorful team, whether a fan or not, will enjoy.

One of the best books out there on the modern era of baseball, celebrating the great headlines and charming anecdotes of a hardworking contender and lamenting the sad fate of a small market professional franchise...

Great book on the Expos' franchise. Entertaining and quick read.

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