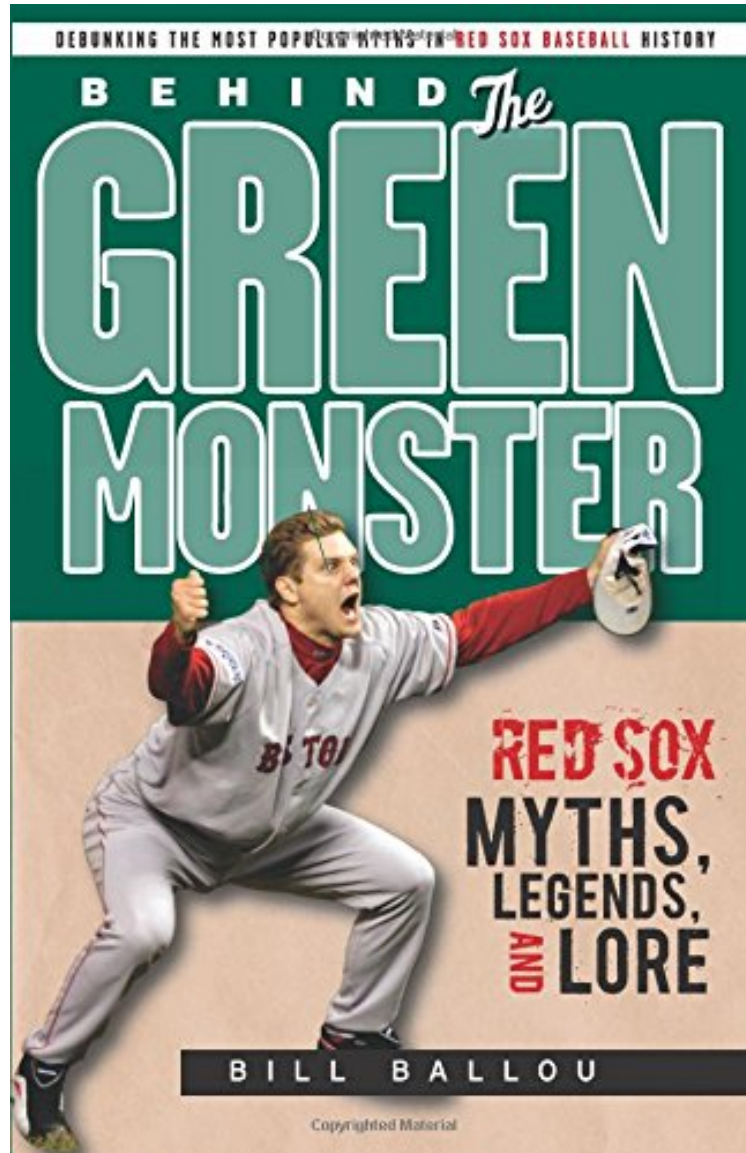


(Download pdf ebook) Behind the Green Monster: Red Sox Myths, Legends, and Lore

## Behind the Green Monster: Red Sox Myths, Legends, and Lore

Bill Ballou

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**Bill Ballou : Behind the Green Monster: Red Sox Myths, Legends, and Lore** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Behind the Green Monster: Red Sox Myths, Legends, and Lore:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An odd updateBy WDX2BBThere's something going on with "Behind the Green Monster," but it's tough to figure out what. Bill Ballou wrote a book in 2005 on the Boston Red Sox called "Behind the Green Monster." It was quite entertaining. I've been told that Ballou is one of the great characters of

the Red Sox media corps, and the stories he tells reflects that. Four years later, Ballou has come out with a new book. Well, if the first one was good, the follow-up figured to be entertaining too. Which it is, on its own merits. But the catch is, this one is also called "Behind the Green Monster." And some of the stories and observations are the same, even if the publisher is different. On the back cover, Ballou has a short biography that says his first book, "First and 100" came out in 1996. Maybe the publishing rights to the first one expired and went back to the author, and Ballou found another publisher. This one is subtitled "Red Sox myths, legends and lore," and part of the book is spent looking at some fables surrounding the team. There was no Curse of the Bambino. Curt Schilling's sock really had some blood in it. From there, Ballou goes off in a variety of different directions, such as his own lists of best managers, biggest home run, greatest catch, biggest comeback, etc. They are well researched and make good sense. If the assignment is to compare and contrast the two books, the first one probably concentrates a little more on Ballou's time covering the team, with the second more of an overall history. But there's certainly plenty of overlap. That all makes this a difficult book to rate. I guess I liked the first format better, which is why it got four stars from me. I'll take this one down one if you haven't read the first book. And if you did, you've been warned.

In *Behind the Green Monster: Red Sox Myths, Legends, and Lore* by Bill Ballou fans will relive the most exhilarating and heart-wrenching moments in Red Sox history, while also separating the facts from fiction. Numerous myths are dispelled once and for all including, including why the Curse of the Bambino never existed, why the Game 6 loss in the 1986 World Series was not Bill Buckner's fault, who was the real key to Boston's ninth-inning rally in Game 4 of the 2004 ALCS, was Curt Schilling's bloody sock a fake, did Johnny Pesky ever hit a ball off the foul pole named for him, and did Ted Williams really hit a ball off the head of someone sitting 37 rows deep in the right field bleachers. From Yaz's miraculous September in 1967 to the Manny Ramirez trade, the most famous and infamous moments are all combined into one volume. *Behind the Green Monster* delves into those headlines, sets the record straight and gives Sox fans many reasons to celebrate their strong allegiance to their beloved Red Sox.

From the Author "It's all here: the great seasons, the great games, the great moments, and the great players. And even if some of the above weren't so great, they sure were memorable.... That's the fun of *Behind the Green Monster*. Bill Ballou is a contrarian--he is a puncturer of myths, the naysayer of conventional wisdom." Peter Golenbock, from the foreword  
About the Author Bill Ballou has covered the Boston Red Sox for the Worcester Telegram since 1987 and has been the chairman of the Boston chapter of the Baseball Writers Association of America since 2006. He is the author of *First and 100*. he lives in Whitinsville, Massachusetts.