

Lou Gehrig Farewell Speech

“Fans, for the past two weeks you have been reading about the bad break I got. Yet today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of this earth. I have been in ballparks for seventeen years and have never received anything but kindness and encouragement from you fans.

“Look at these grand men. Which of you wouldn’t consider it the highlight of his career just to associate with them for even one day? Sure, I’m lucky. Who wouldn’t consider it an honor to have known Jacob Ruppert? Also, the builder of baseball’s greatest empire, Ed Barrow? To have spent six years with that wonderful little fellow, Miller Huggins? Then to have spent the next nine years with that outstanding leader, that smart student of psychology, the best manager in baseball today, Joe McCarthy? Sure, I’m lucky.



“When the New York Giants, a team you would give your right arm to beat, and vice versa, sends you a gift – that’s something. When everybody down to the groundskeepers and those boys in white coats remember you with trophies – that’s something. When you have a wonderful mother-in-law who takes sides with you in squabbles with her own daughter – that’s something. When you have a father and a mother who work all their lives so you can have an education and build your body – it’s a blessing. When you have a wife who has been a tower of strength and shown more courage than you dreamed existed – that’s the finest I know.

“So I close in saying that I may have had a tough break, but I have an awful lot to live for.”

The Great One

by Tom Clark

So long Roberto Clemente
you have joined the immortals
who've been body snatched
by the Bermuda Triangle

When your plane went down
it forced tears out of grown men
all over the hemisphere

Al Oliver and
even Willie Stargell cried

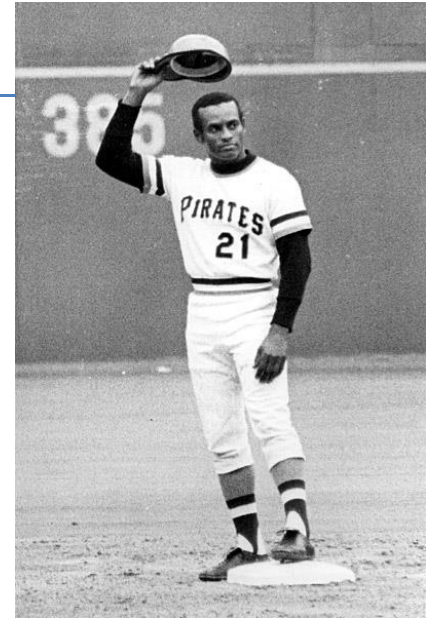
You had a quiet
angry pride
that made your countrymen
look up to you
even if you weren't
taller than they are

[Star • jell]

No matter how many times
Manny Sanguillen
dove for your body
the sun kept going down
on his inability to find it

[San • gee • en]

I just hope those Martians realize
they are claiming the rights to
far and away the greatest right fielder
of all time



Sid at Bat

Glaring at the pitcher,
With an angry stare,
Sid said, "Throw your best pitch,
I'll hit it outta here!!!"

The pitcher held the hard ball,
"We'll see what you can do,
With my Super-Curve ball,
Sinker-slider number two!!!"

Sid laughed really loudly,
"It's time to play some ball!!!
I'm gonna hit your best pitch,
Over that-there wall!!!"

The ball it came a flyin'
It looked just like a pea,
Sid swung his bat, and missed the ball,
He fell down to his knee...

The pitcher cracked a smile,
It wasn't very fair...
The one thing, Sid had hit real hard,
Was the nighttime air...

"I hope that was your joke pitch,
I hope that ain't your best,
If you throw that pitch again,
I'll lay it out to rest!"

The pitcher stared for signals,
The catcher called the call,
The pitcher pitched the next pitch,
Sid waited for the ball...

The baseball danced so slowly,
A curve from outside in,
His swinging bat, Missed the ball,
Would he ever win???



The pitcher chuckled a chuckle,
The catcher giggled too,
The umpire laughed, and then he said,
"I believe that makes strike-two!"

Sid looked at his coach now,
Standing down the line,
Got his signals, then he screamed,
"This one is all mine!!!"

The catcher set the target,
The pitcher threw the ball,
The bat was swung by Sid real hard,
This time he got it all!"

Sid saw the ball go flying,
Way into the sky,
No one ever saw a ball,
Hit so very high...

The pitcher quit the game,
The catcher felt so blue,
Sid ran all the bases,
His team won 3 to 2!!!

The fans they all went crazy,
A curtain-call for Sid,
He tipped his hat, and took a bow,
The amazing kid!!!

"Sid your dinner's ready,"
He heard Mom from the hall,
He left his bat, in his room,
But took his homerun ball...

I Glove this Game

By Mark Rumsey

I am the stop and the toss
The leather and the string
Put me up and break me out

I am the smack and the thud
The name and the brand
Put me up and break me out

I am the catch and the drop
The snow cone and the palm
Put me up and break me out

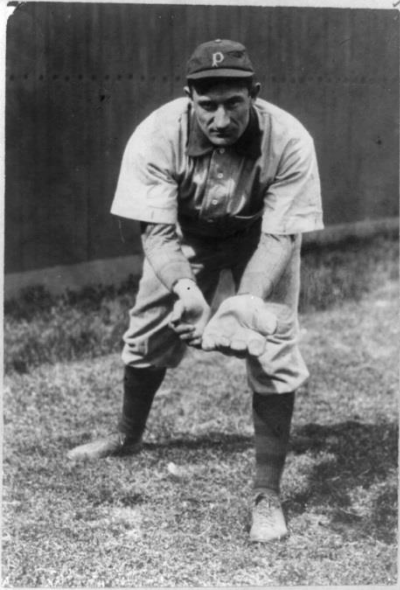
I am the left and right
The snag and the bobble
Put me up and break me out

I am the old and the new
The young and the old
Put me up and break me out

I am the safe and the out
I am a baseball glove
Put me up and break me out



The Rookies



How about our rookies
how about them,
one came up
and pitched a gem.

Each who came
to fill a spot,
brought a bat
that was so hot.

Offense, defense
they brought it all,
when the skipper went
and made each call.

When replacing stars
they fit right in place,
never missed a beat
for that pennant race.

They kept us ahead
and with the team fought hard,
to hand the umpire
the wild card.