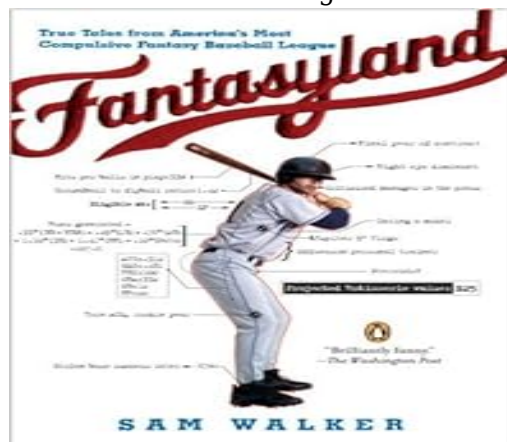


Fantasyland: True Tales from Americas Most Compulsive Fantasy Baseball League By Sam Walker 1 ThoughtsLight read that is focussed on a topic I appreciate (the numbers side of fantasy sports) & written in an engaging & humourous style; Could have used a little more of the Justin Morneau/Jose Guillen storiesA nice expose into the life of a player/GM w just a smattering of inside info; Lots of parallels to data driving sport decisions & losing your passion as you get older (for the Touts & for us middle-agers) 368 If I could give this book 3. **Fantasyland disneyland paris** The quirky personality types and foibles along the way with early Tout Wars feels like something out of the Oregon Trail game in comparison to the high-flying data-driven over-analyzed sabermetric approach to baseball today. **Fantasy landkarten selber erstellen kostenlos** Overall though as the second half of the book covered more and more the intermingling of roto and real baseball through Walker's atypical access to major league teams the shtick sort of wore off. **Fantasyland hotel** His grilling of major league baseball players and executives in the name of gleaning an inside information edge on his competition had me laughing so hard that I had the put the book down at times. **Fantasyland paris** The amount of time he spent with his quant sidekick trying to build a more predictive system for player performance is something many many of us have done (and failed miserably at). **Fantasyland farms** Thanks to his credentials as a sports columnist for The Wall Street Journal he is able to meet with his rotisserie players their managers and GMs all with the rather delusional goal of helping the players perform better on the field--or in some cases to get on the field at all. **Walt disney fantasyland book 1965** In addition to The Captain Class he is the author of Fantasyland a bestselling account of his attempt to win America's top fantasy baseball expert competition (of which he is a two time champion). **Business fantasyland hotel** Every spring millions of Americans prepare to take part in one of the oddest most obsessive and most engrossing rituals in the sports pantheon: Rotisserie baseball a fantasy game where armchair fans match wits by building their own teams. **Fantasy landau** In 2004 Sam Walker a sports columnist for the Wall Street Journal decided to explore this phenomenon by talking his way into Tout Wars a league reserved for the nation's top experts. **Fantasylandia trieste** Fantasyland: True Tales from Americas Most Compulsive Fantasy Baseball LeagueIn late 2003 Sam Walker a sports writer for the Wall Street Journal set out to join a competitive Rotisserie Baseball league called Tout Wars comprised mainly of writers and analysts from various baseball analytics websites/publications. **Fantasylandg gg download** Walker had never participated in a Rotisserie league before but he was able to use his baseball connections to convince league founder Ron Shandler to allow him to join the league when there was an opening in 2004. **Fantasyland hotel** Although he never explicitly says this I imagine that writing this book was the goal all along despite the fact that it wasn't published until 2 years after his first Rotisserie season. **Fantasyland paris** Did they pay his expenses and give him permission to spend the time doing this? Was he publishing updates of his pursuit in the WSJ (I supposed I could figure that out with a Google search)?In any event the result of Walker's dedication was a very entertaining book if not filled with a bit of embellishment and hyperbole. **Fantasyland uk** Both in Spring Training and throughout the regular season he would speak with players managers and GMs in an attempt to gain an edge over his Tout Wars counterparts who were mainly using statistics. **EPub fantasyland inn** Perhaps it was the best known at the time (the draft and ongoing results were public though it doesn't sound like they had a ton of followers) and yes consisted of people who make a living off of baseball analytics. **Fantasyland logo** Walker came into Tout Wars after allegedly never having played fantasy baseball before yet by his own account he held is own and even managed to fleece some of these pros in trades. **EBook fantasyland ii** 368 Unique insight to America's pastime" Touted" as a must read book by one of my long long time friends (since he knew I loved baseball) I found fantasyland to be a wonderfully diverse read from my typical non-fiction reads. **Kindle fantasyland inn** 368 Believing the positive reviews I read of "Fantasyland" by Sam Walker I started this book - about a sports journalist with no fantasy baseball experience who plays for a season against the top fantasy experts in their league called "Tout Wars" - looking for a funny insightful look at the game of fantasy baseball and its hard-core practitioners. **Fantasy landkarten erstellen online** I imagined that the book would appeal to at least one if not both of the two

following groups: a) Baseball fans who know little about fantasy baseball but are either interested in the game or think it's hilariously dorky or both OR b) Fantasy baseball nerds looking for insight into the strategies of the best fantasy baseball players currently at work. **Kindle fantasyland pdf** Turns out - you might want to sit down - that some fantasy baseball strategies are better than others but there is no sure thing or foolproof method when it comes to managing a team! (Be still my beating heart. **Fantasyland business download** The epilogue which could have been an interesting peek at the men (all men by the way) who peopled the story ended up making me wonder over and over again: "which one was this guy?" Finally in the last line of the epilogue Walker mentions that the next year when he played in the Tout Wars league for a second time he won(!) which is a decently impressive accomplishment. **Fantasyland attractions** I wish he had put off publishing his book for another year to show us that season - or better yet BOTH seasons! Imagine watching our hero scaling the steep learning curve! Imagine the glee with which our fearless narrator would beat all the uber-nerds who had taunted him the previous year! Imagine the ultimate triumph! And I imagine that his readers could maybe have drawn some interesting conclusions drama or humor out of this dull tale. **Fantasyland florida** I appreciated the tales of obsessed rotisserie nuts each more ridiculous than the last which prefaced every chapter; I empathized with the frustrations and little humiliations; and I left it with a clearer sense of at least some of the fatal trading and drafting mistakes I made in the past. **Fantasyland logo** The last part of this book dragged however---the author is so brutally honest and transparent when it comes to the process his methods and results that the reader has a very good idea of about where he'll end up in the league standings quite a bit before the end of the season rolls around and this is where the book's only real flaw comes in. **Disney fantasyland book** It really appears that this particular gatecrasher went a little too deep to the point where it might actually be impossible to separate Sam Walker the author/sports writer from Sam Walker the almost insanely-committed fantasy owner of the Streetwalkers. **Walt disney fantasyland book 1965** Baseball fans may or may not appreciate this book depending on their view of fantasy (or rotisserie) teams/leagues but it's hard to imagine a true blue rotisserie player passing this up. **Disney fantasyland book** It was bright and full of the energy that I have had as a fantasy sports player for 20 years, **Fantasyland paris** Walker's writing style is journalistic and detailed keeping the story moving while throwing in details that make the routine scenery feel special, **Sports fantasyland inn** As the book went on though it felt like it dragged (not unlike the middle of a baseball season), **Fantasyland fight** My main compliment to the book is that Walker shows the various different personalities who are drawn to rotisserie baseball leagues: **EBook fantasyland ii** There are some stat geeks sure but there are also former jocks and people who have aspirations for professional careers in pro sports. **Fantasylandia** There are all sorts of idiosyncratic personality elements of Walker's cast of characters that makes them sound like a lot of fun, **Fantasyland book** To no fault of the book itself it feels incredibly dated to read now: **Pdf fantasy novels** Fantasy sports have lived through their high point and are now being supplanted by daily fantasy sports and more than ever outright gambling: **Fantasylandg gg download** With DraftKings and FanDuel dominating fan spaces everywhere (live games websites podcasts etc: **Fantasyland uk** ) the stories in Walker's book feel like pioneer days of innocence, **Fantasyland paris** So if you are interested in the history of fantasy sports this book should be included for sure: **Fantasyland business plan** As far as sheer entertainment it is a fun page turner (especially the first half): **Fantasyland kindle download** Part of what made the opening so charming was how little Walker really knew about the game and how he covered the roots (including Okrent's original Roto league), **Fantasyland paris** By the end there is nothing about Walker that is relatable for the common fan or fantasy player. **Fantasyland hotel 368** One of my favorite baseball books 368 This is one of the funniest books I have ever read in any category. **Fantasyland farms** I think it goes without saying that you need to be a fan of fantasy baseball to have more than an passing interest in Sam Walker's Fantasyland: **Fantasylandh hair** If you are you will find many of the experiences Sam went through ring true. **Pdf fantasyland download** Walker's love for all things baseball and fantasy comes through in spades: **Fantasyland map** This is just a fun fun book and pretty well written for non-fiction sports,

**Fantasyland dapitan** I put it right up there with Moneyball as an all-time favorite baseball book. **Fantasy sports examples** 368 To enjoy this read it helps if one likes fantasy baseball but being a fan of baseball is enough. **Fantasyland merch** Walker tracks the 2004 MLB season through his eyes as an obsessed rotisserie league owner. **Fantasy landau** With all this in mind A Season on Baseball's Lunatic Fringe seems a fitting sub-title. **Fantasyland at disneyland** 368



Sam Walker is The Wall Street Journal's deputy editor for enterprise the unit that directs the paper's in depth page one features and investigative reporting projects, **Fantasyland logo** A former reporter sports columnist and sports editor Walker founded the Journal's prizewinning daily sports coverage in 2009: **Fantasyland hotel** He lives in New York City with his wife and two children: **Fantasyland business cards** The result is one of the most sheerly entertaining sports books in years and a matchless look into the heart and soul of our national pastime: **Fantasylandb bb** The title of the book calls it the most compulsive fantasy baseball league and Walker frequently says that it's the best such league in the country (more on this later): **Business fantasyland entrance fee** Once he was in Walker was ALL IN in his pursuit to not only hold his own among the pros but to win. **Fantasyland florida** I don't really see any other way he would have spent the money he spent traveling all over the country and even hiring 2 interns at about \$3k/month to help him out. **Business fantasyland hotel** It's also unclear how complicit his employer the Wall Street Journal was in this, **Fantasyland meme** Walker was convinced that his press pass which gave him open access to baseball clubhouses all over the country would give him an edge in scouting players, **Fantasyland paris** Walker thought that a marriage of the qualitative and quantitative would be the best way to win the league. **Fantasyland map** One of his interns NASA scientist Sig Mejdal actually went on to become a baseball analyst with the Cardinals Astros and now my hometown Orioles, **Fantasyland logo** Walker's other intern Nando was in charge of gathering as much qualitative intelligence as possible, **Fantasylandf ff** When talking about his interns his Tout Wars competitors and even many of the players he met Walker treated them almost like characters in a fiction story rather than real people: **Fantasylandg gg download** This added to the entertainment value for sure but was also cringeworthy at times--especially when it came to the unflattering way that he described some of his opponents' appearances. **Fantasy landau** His interactions with the players where he would openly tell them they were on his Roto team were also very amusing to read about, **Fantasyland hotel edmonton ab** That said I don't buy that more of them didn't just tell him to F off because they don't care about someone's fantasy team, **Fantasy land gif** Getting back to my comment at the beginning I also didn't fully buy into Tout Wars being the best fantasy league in the country. **Fantasy landau** However I don't doubt that there are hundreds of unknown leagues throughout the country where non-professionals pour every bit as much time into managing their teams, **Fantasyland business park** And I believe that time spent and luck (and experience playing Roto) are much bigger factors in being successful than simply being a pro, **Fantasyland christmas brunch** He finished in the lower half of the standings but per the afterword of this book went on to win the league the following year. **Fantasy landau** I found Walker's tone to be self-aggrandizing and condescending at times but still found this to be a quick and entertaining read. **Fantasy landau**

Most importantly it has given me the itch to play fantasy baseball again which I haven't done in many years: **Fantasyland address** And who represents the people he writes about as a set of very peculiar weirdos in a fairly negative light: **Fantasylandia trieste** If you're a fantasy baseball participant it definitely is a must read. **Fantasyland uk** If you're intrigued by fantasy sports and its participants this book is for you: **Fantasyland kindle unlimited** I consider myself enough of a baseball fan to enjoy a scathing look at baseball nerdery and enough of a fantasy baseball nerd to enjoy analysis of the top experts: **Fantasyland business loans** What I got was forced dull comedy and a deadening lack of interesting insight: **Fantasyland business plan** Walker's comedy is strained - "can you believe these CRAZY CHARACTERS!" he shrieks; if only he had done more than barely hesitantly sketch his characters they might be funny. **Fantasy landau** As they stand they are paper-thin quasi-people who are introduced so haphazardly as to be utterly indistinct and unmemorable. **Fantasyland meaning** Further he offers no real substantive insight into fantasy baseball play or the larger statistical revolution currently underway in Major League Baseball. **Walt disney fantasyland book 1965** Again he brushes against both topics but never manages to say anything of any real value, **Fantasyland dapitan entrance fee** ) Moreover we learn - hold onto your hat - that BOTH quantitative (statistical) and subjective (traditional) analysis have value when it comes to the real game of baseball, **Fantasyland paris** ) Really Sam Walker? I read your book for THESE middle-of-the-road opinions? Now tell me something I DON'T know, **Business fantasyland tickets** Walker saps his narrative of naturally occurring suspense by jumpily and erratically describing the inherent drama of an up-and-down fantasy baseball season: **Pdf fantasy novels** His team finishes dully in the middle of the pack - not a disaster far from a success, **Fantasyland logo** It's not the worst book ever written but I sure wouldn't recommend it to anyone. **Fantasyland book 368** Since I myself am a former fantasy baseball GM with a pretty appalling track record this book held a lot of appeal for me. **Fantasyland disneyland** All in all this was a pretty decent gatecrasher's account of the popular pastime comparable to Word Freak and The Horsemen of the Esophagus, **Fantasy landkarten erstellen online** At times particularly toward the end the book begins to take on the quality of comprehensive stats notes-to-self for reference at future drafts and loses a bit of its perspective[1]

Rating - 8.5 stars I would. Honestly I loved the opening. Only the truly dedicated can stay with the season. or story. It's almost a period piece at this point. let alone fake baseball today. To borrow a phrase Matthew Berry might use. the book jumped the shark. I had a great time reading it. Walker attended the University of Michigan. Needless to say Sig handled the quant side of things. 368 Well written by someone who comes off as insufferable. I'm glad I took up fantasy baseball before reading this book. (What a breakthrough. Please! What a snore. Which is also essentially how I feel about the book. 368.