



Farewell to Sport

Paul Gallico

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One of *Sports Illustrated*'s Top 100 Sports Books of All Time: A classic collection by one of the twentieth century's most influential sportswriters

From 1923 to 1937, New York *Daily News* columnist Paul Gallico's dispatches from ringside, rink-side, the sidelines, and the grandstand were a must-read for every American sports fan. Where else could one discover what it was really like to box heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey? To tee off against golfing legend Bobby Jones? To strap on a glove and try to catch Dizzy Dean's ferocious fastball?

Gallico went where no other reporter dared, and for that he earned a permanent place in the pantheon of great American sportswriters alongside Ring Lardner, Red Smith, and Roger Kahn. Then, like a pitcher hanging up his cleats after throwing a perfect game, Gallico walked away to pursue other authorial interests, including the fiction that earned him his greatest renown. His parting gift to his devoted readers was *Farewell to Sport*, a collection of twenty-six of his finest pieces.

In these bulletins from the golden age of sports, Gallico profiles icons such as Babe Ruth, Bill Tilden, and Gene Tunney. He exposes the scripted drama of professional wrestling and the hypocrisy of big-time college football. And in feats of daring that went on to inspire a whole new school of journalism, he sacrifices his pride to meet the greatest athletes of the day on their own turf.

A brilliant snapshot of a fascinating era in sports history and a masterwork remarkably ahead of its time, *Farewell to Sport* is a fitting testament to the legacy of Paul Gallico.

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