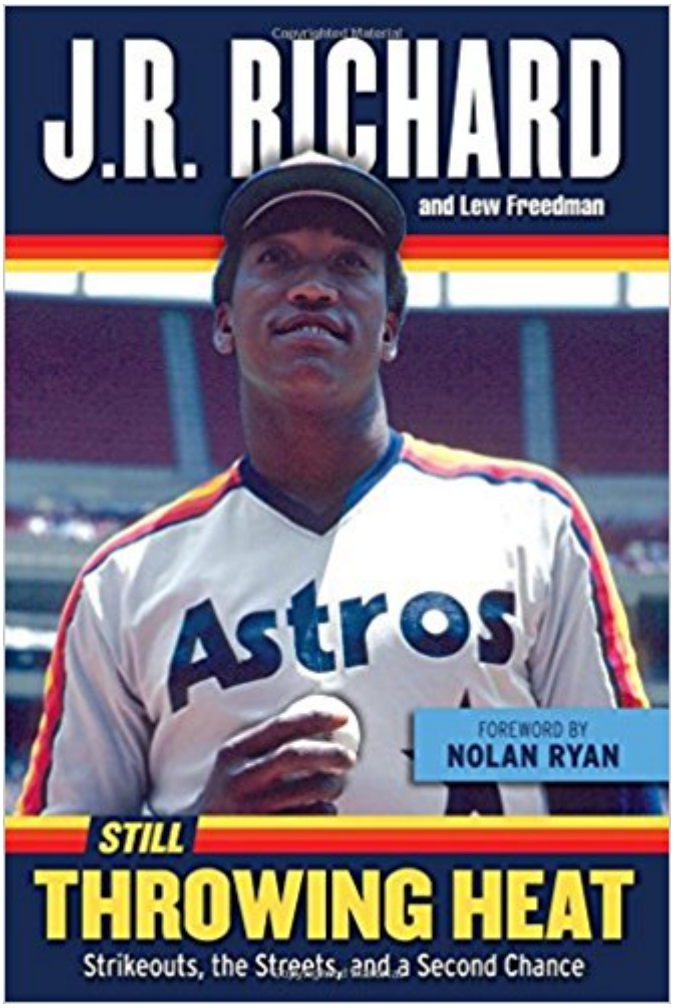
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Still Throwing Heat: Strikeouts, The Streets, And A Second Chance



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Synopsis

A flame-throwing star with the Houston Astros, J. R. Richard was at the top of his profession when he inexplicably began complaining of arm weakness in 1980. Initially scoffed at because he continued approaching 100 mph on the radar gun, everything changed when Richard collapsed while playing catch with a teammateÃ¢â ¬â •later diagnosed as a life-threatening stroke. The shocking development ended RichardÃ¢â ¬â„¢s major league career and set off a chain of events that led to the former All-Star being homeless by the mid-1990s. This rapid rise and sudden, tragic fall define the unusual, moving, and inspirational life of a Houston icon who has endured many hardships but has become an admired figure in his adopted hometown. J. R. Richard tells that story now in his own words, including the highs and the lows of his brilliant athletic career, the difficulties that befell him on and off the field, abandonment by those he counted on after his stroke, the despair of losing everything, and his ultimate redemption and giving back to the community.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

J. R. Richard is a former pitcher who played his entire career with the Houston Astros. After his baseball career was cut short by a stroke, he became involved in his local church in Houston, where he is now a minister. He also spends his time helping to raise funds to support baseball programs for children. He lives in Houston. Lew Freedman is an award-winning sportswriter and the author of 56 books, including illustrated histories of the Bears, Giants, and Steelers. He coauthored Fergie: My Life from the Cubs to Cooperstown and Juan Marichal: My Journey From the Dominican

Republic to Cooperstown, with the Hall of Fame pitchers. He lives in Columbus, Indiana.Ã Â Nolan RyanÃ Â is an eight-time all-star who pitched for the Mets, Angels, Astros, and Rangers. He recorded 5,714 strikeouts, the most in Major League Baseball history. He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999. He lives in Houston.

This is very good book on the life of JR Richard. Richard was a great pitcher in MLB before a stroke ended his career. He threw about 100 mph and was striking out over 300 a season when he was felled by this stroke. Richard goes into detail how this stroke affected him and how he dealt with it. It was amazing that he kept his faith in God even when things were at their worst. I had forgotten that he was homeless for a time and was in really bad shape. He was able to overcome all of this through a great support group network. The reason I gave 4 stars is that some of this book becomes repetitive it seems and could have been condensed a little. But still a fine book for MLB fans who watched Richard when he was at his best.

A great look back at a dominant pitcher's life & career. JR Richard was a powerhouse athlete that has, sadly, been forgotten by many fans. HE was one of the main reasons I became an Astros fan as a kid back in the late 70's. His career was cut short by a stroke in 1980. I love the part of the book that detailed his early life. Much of the book is JR recounting his life. Each chapter starts with Lew Freedman's thoughts. My only complaint is sometimes JR gets a little repetitive, but that is a minor issue (hence 4 stars instead of 5). But don't let that stop you from buying this book. This is a must for any Astros fan.

I love this memoir cause of perseverance that this guy to came from nothing to something back to nothing and now has something again. The Astros have been my favorite team since 2015 so I'm going to learn history of the team and it's players. No doubt mind that this flamethrower would have been 1st ballot Hall of Famer

Richard was one of the most dominating pitchers in baseball before a stroke due to thoracic outlet syndrome ended his career. The book is arranged well with his co-writer explaining each chapter and then JR providing the second half of the chapter. It reads as a biography and autobiography working alongside one another.

This was a great pitcher cut down in his prime by a stroke.I've seen him pitch in person, he was

fantastic.He writes honestly about his downfalls and recovery.He has a strong faith and gives thanks without hitting you over the head and being holier than thou.

I was happy to learn about J.R. Richard although this book seems a little simple. I also would have liked hearing about his homelessness in more detail.

Sincere memoir written by a fascinating but almost forgotten great of the 1970s with a tragic end to his career, describing how he bounced back from homelessness. A bit repetitious at times, the story is nonetheless compelling enough to compensate.

Great story about someone who is able to overcome adversity !!

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