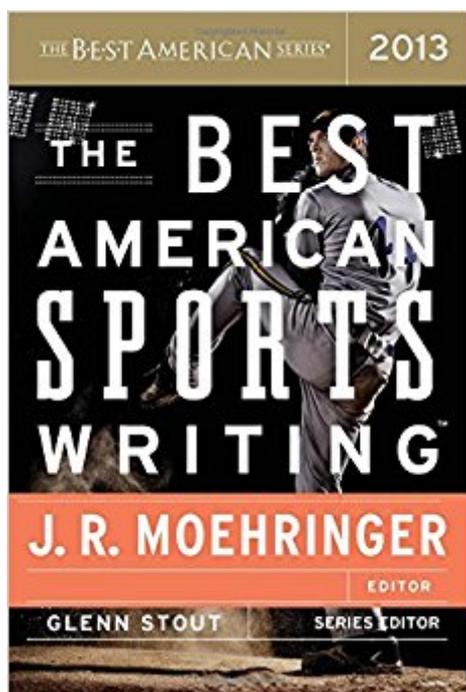


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# The Best American Sports Writing 2013



## Synopsis

J. R. Moehringer, a Pulitzer Prize-winning feature writer and the author of *The Tender Bar*, has selected the best sports writing from the past year. Chosen from more than 350 national, regional, and specialty publications and, increasingly, the top sports blogs, this collection showcases those journalists who are at the top of their game.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars See all reviews (38 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #212,747 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Journalism #109 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Essays #361 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > History of Sports

## Customer Reviews

It is impossible for all of the selections of *The Best American Sports Writing* to equally grip the reader's interest and keep them engaged. Different people have different tastes and preferences, and diverse collections such as this will inevitably contain a few articles that just don't do it for a reader for whatever reason. Unfortunately for me, the book started off with what I found to be one of the least compelling picks, Karen Russell's piece about a Spanish matador's gruesome goring injury and comeback. I have nothing against obscure sports but I simply didn't enjoy Russell's article all that much compared to the other picks. The collection is ultimately a solid mix of articles from a variety of sources from *Deadspin* to *Sports Illustrated* to *The New Yorker*. As is to be expected, the book is somewhat uneven but it does contain some true gems that make it a worthy read for sports fans. *Best American Sports Writing* is surprisingly consistent from a thematic perspective, and the general themes of loss and deception make an appearance in many of these stories. Athletes are tragically struck down in their prime, steroids injected and pills popped, businesses go bankrupt, and team employees are wiretapped and mistreated, to name a few. Sometimes these stories celebrate

perseverance in the face of adversity and tragedy, such as Chris Ballard's story in Sports Illustrated about a high school baseball team rallying to a state championship after the death of a star pitcher, and other articles like Jason Schwartz's account of the demise of Curt Schilling's gaming company are more bleak but not less interesting. Though there are some lighter pieces like Jeff MacGregor's clever appropriation of Waiting for Godot to examine the NFL lockout, the bulk of the articles are pretty dour.

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