



I Am #8: Roberto Clemente

By Jim Gigliotti

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I was a baseball hero and an inspiring humanitarian. I am Roberto Clemente.

A unique hero, Roberto Clemente is not only famous for his impressive baseball career, but also for his generous humanitarian efforts. Nearly 40 years ago, the same year he swung his 3,000th major league baseball hit, he died in an airplane accident on his way to deliver aid to earthquake victims. His heroics on the field earned him a place in the National Baseball Hall of Fame, the first Latin American to be granted access. Just in time for Hispanic heritage month, learn all about this legend's life from his inspiring beginnings to his tragic end. This book will feature a full-color illustrated cover, one-color illustrations throughout, a detailed time line, introductions to other notable people from the story, a map, sidebars, and a top-ten list of important things to know about Roberto Clemente.

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I Am #8: Roberto Clemente By Jim Gigliotti Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #412677 in Books
- Published on: 2013-07-30
- Released on: 2013-07-30
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.50" h x 5.50" w x .50" l, .22 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 128 pages

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Editorial Review

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Roberto Clemente, a baseball player for the Pittsburgh Pirates who met an untimely end in 1972, represents that far too rare figure in modern professional sports: a true role model of humanitarianism. This approachable bio opens with an imaginary autobiographical introduction summarizing Clemente's life in a first-person narrative. Then the more detailed story begins in Clemente's birthplace in Puerto Rico, where he learned his sport with makeshift equipment. As a young man, Clemente experienced segregation in the Deep South early in his profession, and he became the first real Latino superstar of the sport due to his prowess both at the plate and on the field. This engaging chronicle ends with his tragic death in a plane crash at the height of his career, as he was attempting to deliver aid to victims of an earthquake in Nicaragua. An annotated gallery of important characters and eight chapters of equal length help make this a manageable, pleasurable entry in the I Am series. Grades 3-5. --Erin Anderson

About the Author

GRACE NORWICH has written many books for young readers on a variety of topics, including health, fashion, animals, and more. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kenneth Sisk:

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