



Bigger Than the Game: Restitching a Major League Life

Dirk Hayhurst

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"The best writer in a baseball uniform." —Tyler Kepner, *The New York Times*

After nearly a decade in the minors, Dirk Hayhurst defied the odds to climb onto the pitcher's mound for the Toronto Blue Jays. Newly married, with a big league paycheck and a brand new house, Hayhurst was ready for a great season in the Bigs.

Then fate delivered a crushing hit. Hayhurst blew out his pitching shoulder in an insane off-season workout program. After surgery, rehab, and more rehab, his major-league dreams seemed more distant than ever.

From there things got worse, weirder, and funnier. In a crazy world of injured athletes, autograph-seeking nuns, angry wrestlers, and trainers with a taste for torture, Hayhurst learned lessons about the game—and himself—that were not in any rulebook. Honest, soul-searching, insightful, hilarious, and moving, Dirk Hayhurst's latest memoir is an indisputable baseball classic.

Praise for *The Bullpen Gospels* and *Out of My League*

"Dirk Hayhurst writes about baseball in a unique way. Observant, insightful, human, and hilarious." —Bob Costas

"A fun read. . . This book shows why baseball is so often used as a metaphor for life." —Keith Olbermann

"Entertaining and engaging. . . reminiscent of Jim Bouton's *Ball Four*." —*Booklist*

"A rare gem of a baseball book." —Tom Verducci, *Sports Illustrated*

"A humorous, candid, and insightful memoir of Hayhurst's rookie season in the majors. . . Grade: Home Run." —*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

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