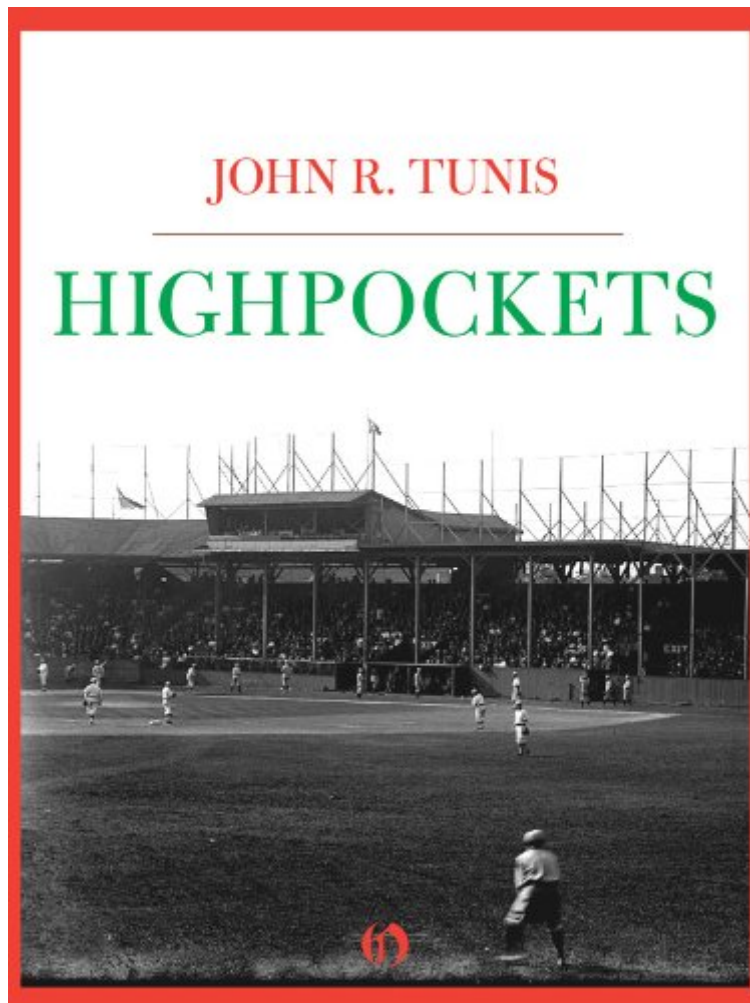


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# Highpockets



## Synopsis

Cecil "Highpockets" McDade is known for his ego, his ambition, and his batting average—but a freak accident may help him discover what's really important. A rookie right fielder for the Brooklyn Dodgers, Cecil "Highpockets" McDade shows plenty of promise. But his high opinion of himself (and low opinion of the city) lands him in hot water when a sportswriter makes news out of the Dodger who hates Brooklyn, turning Highpockets into the most despised man on the team overnight. But Highpockets remains relentless in his pursuit of fame and fortune—until a car accident brings a boy named Dean Kennedy into his life. Dean doesn't care about the Dodgers, or baseball, or anything other than his stamp collection. Consumed by guilt over his part in the collision that may cost Dean his leg, Highpockets must try to turn his own life around—before it's too late.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I read "Highpockets" when I was in elementary school in the 1960's. I saw the book was available

for Kindle and read it again after almost 50 years! I enjoyed it as much as I did all those years ago! It's a good story, well written, and teaches "lessons" that never go out of style... tell the truth, think of others before yourself, don't be selfish, etc. Back when I was a kid, I never knew that Tunis' books were about a fictional Brooklyn Dodgers team. The Dodgers were already in LA for 9 years when I read the book for the first time and I had never really heard of the Brooklyn Dodgers. This book started a life long interest in baseball fiction and non-fiction. I discovered that there were other books by Tunis that followed the story of other mythical Dodger players and I will probably read them. Starting with "The Kid from Tompkinsville!"

Wonderful story. Love the "baseball talk". Feels like I am right in the stands! Characters are great.

Item as advertised, promptly shipped. Thanks.

Book from my youth. Purchased this copy as a gift for baseball-loving grandson.

Bought as a gift for man who had read it as a boy. Very well received.

Highpockets was a amazing story. It had suspense and it was a book that gave you emotions as you read through it.

All of the Tunis books should be required reading for 5th/6th grade boys

Highpockets is a baseball novel by John R. Tunis, and one of a series of books about the Brooklyn Dodgers of the 1940s and 50s, which some people call "The Golden Age of Baseball." The protagonist is Cecil McDade, a rookie outfielder/slugging from North Carolina who's in it just for the money and the personal glory. He even hates Brooklyn! Predictably, he learns his lesson. Not much different than a million sports books for kids? Sure, but Tunis raises the story out of the ordinary with a more realistic take on the life of ballplayers, as well as details that mark him as someone who knows the game inside and out. What results is almost a fable, simple, yet profound. Baseball is about character: it couldn't be about anything else and last so long, and Tunis skillfully weaves together the fate of the team with the development of "Highpockets" McDade as a man and a player. One scene, in which the now unselfish Highpockets decides to play in a crucial game in spite of the risk of permanent injury, steals the show, as the fans rise as one to let him know what

they think of him. Uncharacteristically of the genre, Tunis' books often address social issues - racism, prejudice, alcoholism, and readjustment to civilian life after fighting in a war. His books are idealistic, but not preachy; edifying but not at the cost of a good story. Tunis said he based this book on some aspects of the career of the great Ted Williams, but Highpockets can stand by itself as one of the very best juvenile baseball books ever. It's too bad that Tunis is relatively unknown these days. He is a real example of what excellence in juvenile literature reads like.

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Highpockets

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