



# Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu: John Updike on Ted Williams

*John Updike*

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## **Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu: John Updike on Ted Williams** John Updike

On September 28, 1960—a day that will live forever in the hearts of fans—Red Sox slugger Ted Williams stepped up to the plate for his last at-bat in Fenway Park. Seizing the occasion, he belted a solo home run—a storybook ending to a storied career. In the stands that afternoon was 28-year-old John Updike, inspired by the moment to make his lone venture into the field of sports reporting. More than just a matchless account of that fabled final game, *Hub Fans Bid Kid Adieu* is a brilliant evocation of Williams' competitive spirit, an intensity of dedication that still "crowds the throat with joy."

Now, on the 50th anniversary of the dramatic exit of baseball's greatest hitter, The Library of America presents a commemorative edition of *Hub Fans*, prepared by the author just months before his death. To the classic final version of the essay, long out-of-print, Updike added an autobiographical preface and a substantial new afterword. Here is a baseball book for the ages, a fan's notes of the very highest order.

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