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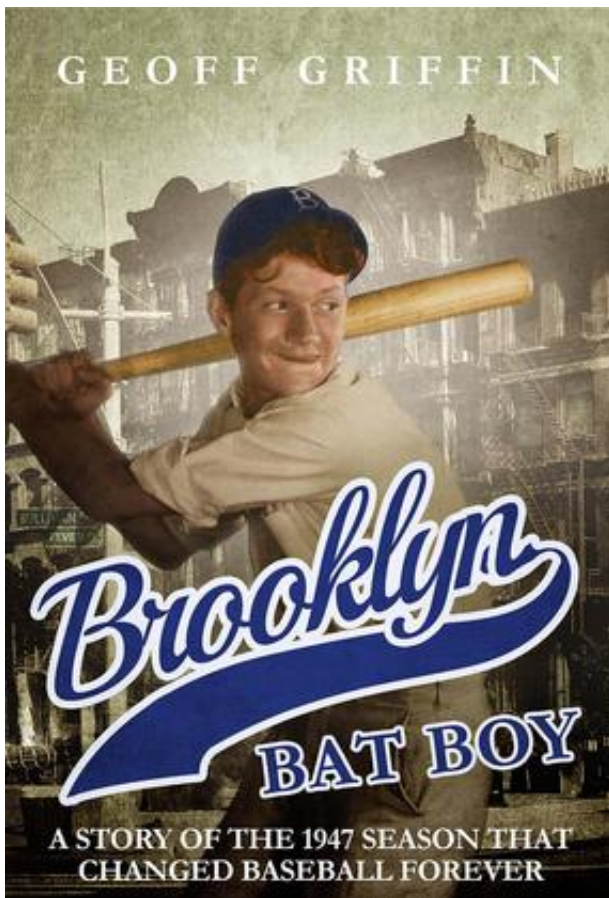
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The Legacy of Jackie Robinson

Posted by [admin](#) on Friday, April 15, 2016 · [Leave a Comment](#)

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Throughout history African Americans have made numerous contributions to society but were looked down upon simply because of the color of their skin. This bigotry would prevent them from enjoying the same activities that others had the privilege of participating in. Among many of these activities, baseball was a favorite. And for eighty years baseball- a pastime, passion, and profession as American as apple pie- sadly only knew one color: white. In 1947, Jackie Robinson changed that by becoming the first black Major League Baseball player, debuting for the Brooklyn Dodgers and breaking the long-standing color barrier. His initiation into baseball was, of course, a game changer for the sport, but also became a landmark of American history. Now, we celebrate that landmark annually on April 15th, known as “Jackie Robinson Day”.

In the highly entertaining and historically important new fiction book for young people, *Brooklyn Bat Boy* (by Geoff Griffin), we are introduced to 12-year-old Bobby Kelly. Bobby is a Brooklyn boy who loves playing stickball in the street with his friends and cheering for the Dodgers. His dream of being part of the Dodgers comes true in 1947 when he lands the job of bat boy for the team. When it’s announced that an African American named Jackie Robinson will be playing for Brooklyn, Bobby must navigate his feelings about it, while friends and family members voice their disapproval. In order to truly become part of the Dodgers, Bobby will learn to accept Robinson as a member of the team and to learn from his example. In honor of Jackie Robinson Day, author **Geoff Griffin**, a sports journalist, lifelong baseball fan, and educator, shares the inspirational Jackie Robinson story with a new generation.

Brooklyn Bat Boy explores:

- Jackie Robinson’s story through the point of view of a 12-year-old boy.
- The conflicting opinions and emotions about Robinson’s initiation into baseball, and the eventual acceptance and respect for him.

- How individuals can show courage and strength without fighting or violence.
- The importance of stepping out of our comfort zones to embrace change.
- And much more.

So, if you're a baseball fan who happens to harbor a love of historical fiction, then this is definitely the book for you!

Geoff Griffin has worked as a lawyer, special education teacher, journalist, and editor. He has over 20 years of experience writing for a variety of newspapers and magazines. He has had a number of essays published in anthologies and is co-host of the award winning Travel Brigade Radio Show and podcast. *Brooklyn Bat Boy* is Griffin's first work of fiction. More information on *Brooklyn Bat Boy* and Geoff Griffin can be found at www.BrooklynBatBoy.com, www.GeofGriffin.com, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). The official book is now available for purchase on Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

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