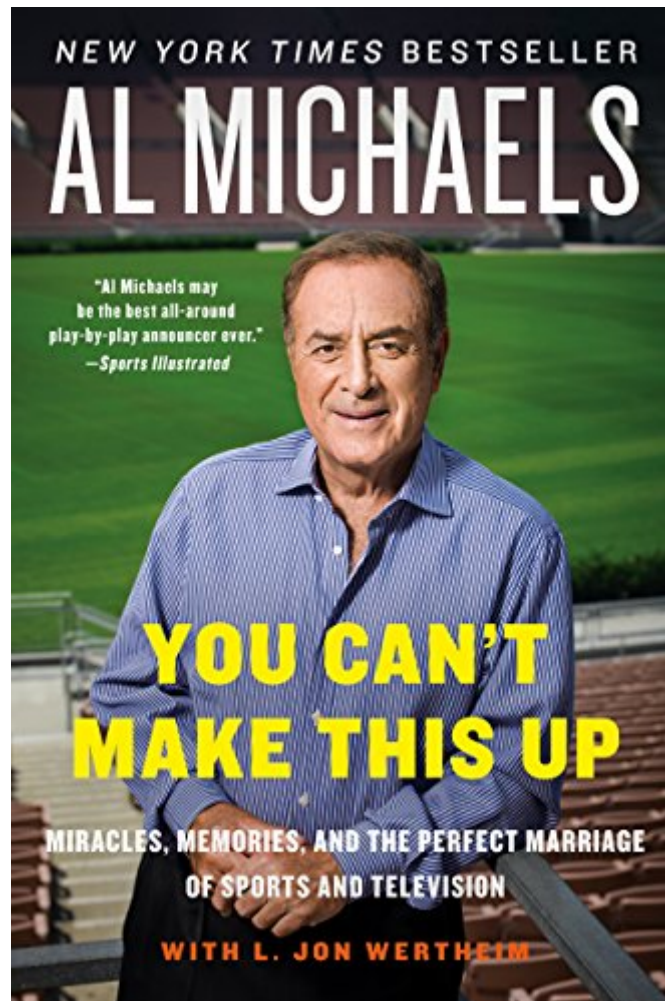


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You Can't Make This Up: Miracles, Memories, And The Perfect Marriage Of Sports And Television



Synopsis

In this highly entertaining and insightful memoir, one of television's most respected broadcasters interweaves the story of his life and career with lively firsthand tales of some of the most thrilling events and fascinating figures in modern sports. No sportscaster has covered more major sporting events than Al Michaels. Over the course of his forty-plus year career, he has logged more hours on live network television than any other broadcaster in history, and is the only play-by-play commentator to have covered all four major sports championships: the Super Bowl, World Series, NBA Finals, and the Stanley Cup Final. He has also witnessed first-hand some of the most memorable events in modern sports, and in this highly personal and revealing account, brings them vividly to life. Michaels shares never-before-told stories from his early years and his rise to the top, covering some of the greatest moments of the past half century—from the "Miracle on Ice" the historic 1980 Olympic hockey finals to the earthquake that rocked the 1989 World Series. Some of the greatest names on and off the field are here—Michael Jordan, Bill Walton, Pete Rose, Bill Walsh, Peyton and Eli Manning, Brett Favre, John Madden, Howard Cosell, Cris Collinsworth, and many, many more. Fortright and down-to-earth, Michaels tells the truth as he sees it, giving readers unique insight into the high drama, the colorful players, and the heroes and occasional villains of an industry that has become a vital part of modern culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First of all, I was surprised at the theme of *YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP*. This book is actually an autobiography, not really some type of secret, insider's gossip report. Al Michaels tells his story from his early years as a junior minor league baseball sportscaster, all the way to the top of his profession, as the play-by-play announcer on the most highly rated NFL show in the world. Each chapter in *YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP* represents a new job or locale for the author. We start off in the world of minor league baseball; by the end of the book we see Michaels at the top of his game as one of the veteran TV announcers for both NFL Monday Night Football, as well as NFL Sunday Night Football. As a big sports fan, in his youth Michaels used some trickery to get into games for free. He tells the story where he called the box office, pretended to be a minor league player, and asked for the free tickets to be left at the box office for him. That trick scored him 2 free tickets. The young Al Michaels was a huge fan of Vin Scully. For those readers who have heard Vin Scully on radio or television, you will know why Michaels adored him. In fact, when Michaels first got started in baseball play by play announcing, someone told him to "Just sound like Vin Scully." Well, that was certainly great advice. The authors describe lots of crazy bloopers and funny incidents. One of the most unusual anecdotes in *YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP* is the story of Michaels with Howard Cosell, when Cosell breaks up a fist fight in a rough section of Kansas City. Driving through town, they saw a fight going on and Howard jumped out of the car to lecture the two antagonists, in a professorial tone.

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