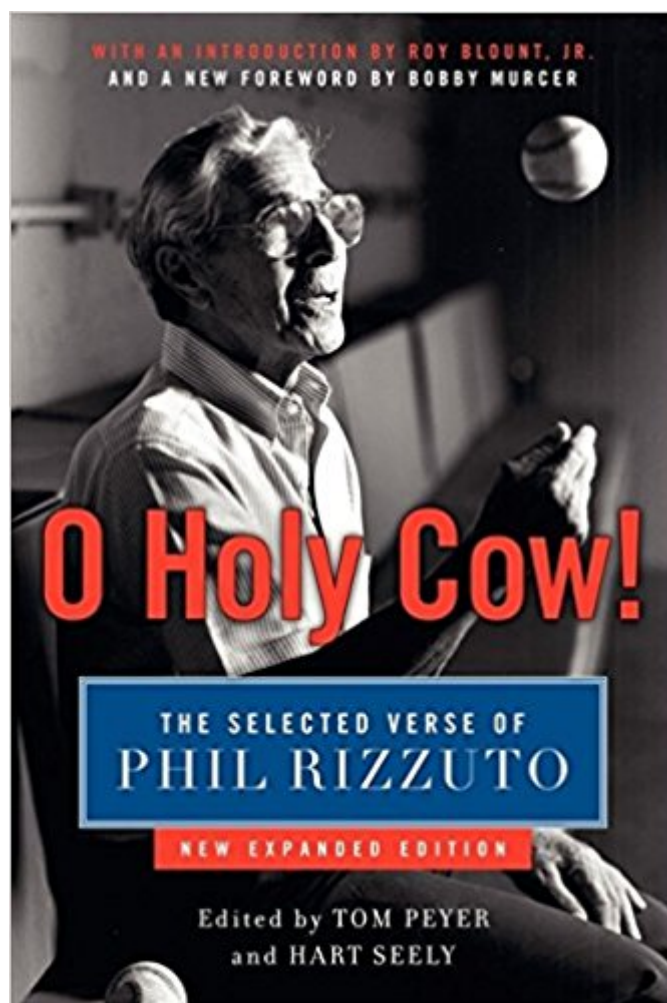


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# O Holy Cow!: The Selected Verse Of Phil Rizzuto



## Synopsis

Hall of Fame shortstop and Yankees broadcaster extraordinaire, the incomparable Phil Rizzuto (1917-2007) waxed poetic on America's favorite pastime from the glorious days of Mantle and Maris well into the reign of Jeter and Rivera. For more than a quarter century the Bard of the Booth captured great moments in baseball—and effortlessly interwove them with essential and often hilarious insights into the human condition. In loving commemoration and celebration of the life and career of an exceptional Man of Baseball, this new edition of *O Holy Cow!* includes a new foreword by baseball legend Bobby Murcer, a new poem written by editors Tom Peyer and Hart Seely, and more than sixty additional never-before-published masterworks of short, impromptu verse that capture the unmistakable voice of the unforgettable Rizzuto.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Found poetry is based on the idea that all kinds of texts, including conversational speech, are chock full of the stuff of poetry. Interesting sound-patterns, thematic repetitions, startling imagery--these typically poetic dimensions of language are always present, only in less-concentrated forms than one finds in poetry proper. Taking a leap of faith that the theory holds water, editors Tom Peyer and Hart Seely have gone through countless hours of baseball broadcasts and emerged with a book-length collection of what they are calling the verse of Phil Rizzuto, the beloved broadcaster of the New York Yankees. Rizzuto's "poems" are hilarious and often-insightful instances of the poetry of everyday speech. A total success. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

1961 And 1991 Alienation Apodosis Asylum Boxes The Bridge Bubbles Buns California Challenge  
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For Seaver Time And Money To Be Alone To Blow A Story To Finish A Story To Speak With Espy,  
To Smile With Tears Unwashed Very Frustrated Vincent Wait A Minute The Way Mattingly Wants  
Them To Do White's Secret Zamboanga -- Table of Poems from Poem Finder™ --This text  
refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

This book was a quick, easy, entertaining read. Full of Rizzuto quotes I found myself laughing at many of his hilarious broadcast comments. I never had the chance to listen to him broadcast but I really felt like I was listening to play by play (and redirects, many of them!) as I read this book. It's not a long book and many of the quotes are a sentence or two...but it's still a great read of a classic broadcaster and former player.

If you grew up watching those awful awful Yankees teams of the 80s and early 90s, you also know that listening to Scooter, White, and Bobby Murcer was all that made the WPIX broadcasts bearable. Hearing Scooter riff on whatever news story was bothering him that day, or who's birthday it was, or trying to wish Pagliarulo's grounders out of the infield, was awesome. This book openly acknowledges the poetic genius of Phil Rizzuto's impromptu utterances in the booth. Call me sentimental--in this case I don't care. I loved him, and I love the book.

Interesting poetry.

A wonderful collection of thoughts- confessions in public- fragmented wisdom that bring the scooters voice back

Never in the long history of the poetic art...

I am an old Yankee fan. Phil Rizzuto was one of the great team players and leaders. I expected a lot from this book. Turns out it was only outtakes of small things he said while broadcasting. Most of which made little or no sense. There was nothing in this whole book of interest. This is the only sports book I have read in which I never got anything out of it.

Phil Rizzuto was for thirteen years one of the greatest ballplayers who ever played the game. He was a legendary shortstop who once fielded two- hundred and thirty- eight chances without an error. He was a great clutch player especially in the World Series. During his years with the Yankees they won several World Series. He was also the greatest bunter the game had seen since Ty Cobb. He after his playing years became a broadcaster for the Yankee games and did this for over forty years. There he built up a great following who loved his particular mix of homey platitude, rooting for the Yankees, general banter and cliché, good- hearted and good- willed chatter. I never went for the broadcaster Scooter perhaps because it was already past the time when Baseball meant so much to me. The Scooter on the radio always sounded flat, boring , inane and annoying. And this when I nonetheless understood that he is a good decent guy who was once a very great ballplayer. This little volume consists in 'found poems'. The editors put together little pieces of Rizzuto's talk and restructured them as poetry. It works sometimes as in his long prayer for the health of Thurman Munson. It also is funny at times as in the poem dedicated to his leaving the game early to go home. He often talked about the need to get across the George Washington Bridge and back home. It also will bring back a lot of memories for those who loved to listen to him. This is not material for poetry lovers in general, but for Scooter fans and real baseball fans only.

This is another poetry review from Wolfie and Kansas, the boonie dogs from Toto, Guam. Last month we reviewed "Unleashed: Poems by Writers' Dogs". This month we could not find any more poems by dogs to review, so we had to review a volume by a non-canine animal of primate derivation. We decided to review this book for four reasons. First, the poet, Phil Rizzuto, has the

doggish nickname "Scooter". Second, this is a slim book, easily carried in one's mouth and easy to bury. Third, the poems are about baseball, a human version of the game "fetch". In baseball, one human hits a ball with a stick, and nine other humans run around trying to fetch it. In fact, poet Scooter is a Hall of Fame fetcher. Fourth, and most importantly, many of the poems in this book are good enough to deserve the honorific "doggerel". The poem "Reversal of Opinion" displays greater wisdom than one normally expects from humans. "Poem No. 61" is an interesting variation on an historic theme. In the first great tragic baseball poem, the mighty Casey was unable to hit the ball, with the unjoyful result that nobody got to fetch it. In "Poem No. 61", a latter-day Casey named Roger Maris achieves a similarly tragic result by different means. Roger does hit the ball--but hits it so far that the other players cannot fetch it. Instead, the ball lands outside the fenced yard the game is played in, with the result that spectators fight over it like a pack of wild, well, humans. In conclusion, we can just say, "Scooter--good shortstop! Good poet!"

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