

[Free] Fridays With Red: A Radio Friendship

## Fridays With Red: A Radio Friendship

*Bob Edwards*

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**Bob Edwards : Fridays With Red: A Radio Friendship** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fridays With Red: A Radio Friendship:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A bygone eraBy M. McClainThrough the words of Red Barber, this book reminded me of all that was good about baseball and radio and summers growing up in the South. Reading the book was a reminder of that bygone era, although I admit the passing decades have made it seem easier and more trouble-free than it actually was. I also enjoyed hearing the background of the NPR chats between Bob Edwards and Red, as I was one of those listeners who always made sure I was out of the shower by the time it came on each Friday morning. This book gave me the sense of eavesdropping, without intruding, over the conversations of two good friends.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a very high three...By David McCannand, if pages 148 - 231 had been as engaging as pages 1 - 147, I would have awarded four stars.Red Barber remains an American icon worthy of our attention and admiration.Basketball is American alright; but baseball is The American Sport,and Red Barber kept it high in his catbird seat for five decades.from time to time even now he returns to continue to remind me and millions...crepe myrtles in bloom are still a sure sign watermelons are ripe.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Historical Depth for Baseball LoversBy formerhistoryproffFor baseball lovers Red Barber is an icon. For many NPR listeners so is Bob Edwards. I did not hear these segments when they were broadcast. For many of them I was living abroad. However, reading this collection by Bob Edwards compiled after Red Barber died is a delightful historical study. These "snippets" provide depth of insight into the development of the sport, development of friendship and each of the men involved. Acceptance of change and people is a major theme in these vignettes with all

the difficulty, pain, disappointment, fulfillment and joy the acceptance entails. Whether baseball fan or NPR devotee or both this book inspires, challenges and is a "good read".

Wit, wisdom, a silky southern voice--these were the qualities that captivated millions of faithful Red Barber fans each Friday as he chatted with Morning Edition host Bob Edwards on subjects ranging from gardening to sports to the mysteries of life. This affectionate memoir will delight readers.

From Publishers Weekly: Bob Edwards, National Public Radio's Morning Edition host, reflects on 12 years with the late Red Barber, legendary sportscaster and radio personality. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal: The year is 1950, and Red Barber, the popular voice of Brooklyn, is describing Ebbets Field, home of the Brooklyn Dodgers: "For those of you who haven't seen Ebbets Field, it's a double-decked stadium and the double-decking begins at right field's corner... and there is no stand in back of right field. That's the famous fence or wall, the right field wall." Anyone who heard Barber's voice on National Public Radio's Morning Edition with host Bob Edwards will take pleasure in this book. A baseball announcer for 33 years, Barber popularized the phrase "to be in the catbird seat" (i.e., to be sitting pretty) when he was the play-by-play announcer for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Born in 1908, Red Barber was 84 when he died in October 1992. This informative and balanced biography of a man full of wisdom and pathos is recommended for sports collections. Previewed in Prepub Alert, LJ 6/15/93.- Jim Paxman, Tennessee State Univ., Nashville Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus: A broadcaster's captivating but unsentimental memoir of the relationship he enjoyed for more than 12 years with the late Walter Lanier ("Red") Barber. Edwards had hosted NPR's Morning Edition since its late 1979 inception when the nonpareil sportscaster was persuaded to make a weekly appearance on the program. Almost every Friday from 1981 until Barber's death last October at age 84, the author (at the mike in a Washington, D.C., studio) and "the ole redhead" (speaking via satellite from his retirement home in Tallahassee) chatted at 7:35 a.m. EST. The four-minute spots soon became one of the NPR network's most popular features, thanks mainly to the discursive charm of the sometime voice of the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Yankees. Barber offered knowledgeable commentary on a wealth of subjects, including camellias, cats, the English language (which he employed with elegant precision), literature, race relations, religion, and, of course, the wide world of sport. Owing to hard labor as a play-by-play announcer for high-school basketball tournaments in his salad days, however, the Mississippi native didn't have much use for the court game. Nor was Barber an unfailingly lovable fellow: He could turn flinty and sternly demanding when an associate didn't meet his high standards of accuracy or integrity. As Edwards nonetheless makes clear through generous samples of their unscripted dialogues, short takes on Barber's career, anecdotal material gleaned from colleagues, and Red's influence on the author's own life, the stylish southerner was a genuinely good man off the air as well as on. An affectionate and affecting tribute to a friend who seldom was at a loss for words. (Photographs--not seen) -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.