



# Breaking Ground: How Jackie Robinson Changed Brooklyn

*Alan Lelchuk*

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*Breaking Ground: How Jackie Robinson Changed Brooklyn* offers several revealing insights about Jackie Robinson's career from an unusual perspective. First, it is an eyewitness memoir that captures in atmospheric detail the impact of Jackie's very presence on Ebbets Field from the adoring eyes of a nine year old fan, who saw him play often. Second, it explains how Jackie's special personality and play affected the borough of Brooklyn and changed it forever. Third, on a more personal level, *Breaking Ground* tells the story of how Jackie became an important figure inside the immigrant Lelchuk household, where a left-wing father, who had felt much hostility and estrangement from both America and his son, suddenly started to learn and understand the country of his son and of his own exile. *Breaking Ground* transports readers from the national baseball stage to the emergence of an iconic American city, from the throes and struggles of new immigrant family to a young boy's deepest pleasures.

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