

# Kings of the Diamond

by Darren Lopez

We were the ship

Toured coast to coast USA

Island hoppin'

The cari-bay

Mexico to Venezuela

Even the Japanese made us feel welcomed

Kings of the Diamond

Campeones del Pueblo

Bats always in hand

But still

Second class to Uncle Sam

Pittsburgh to NYC

St. Louis to DC

Maryland to Missouri

Alabama to Tennessee

We created fandom and business

We lived our wildest dreams in hard times

Kings of the Diamond

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But still

Second Class to Uncle Sam

No hotels or decent food

Never deterred us from the game we loved

We got to see the world

On the diamond

Nobody could tell us ANYTHING

We owned the game

Loved every moment, every cheer and every jeer

Off the diamond, they called us every name in the book

But

Our skin was thick, like the calluses on our hands

The love of the game was stronger than Jim

Crow

Standing over us

The greatest insult of all was when they would say

"If only you were white"

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