

http://commons.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Kevin_Durant.jpgWith due respect to [A Tale Of Three Cities](# "A Tale of Two Cities (1958) [Region 2]"). At this point, I'll bet you're thinking of Cleveland and Miami those involved in the Continuing Saga of [Dream Team](# "Chris Bosh"). James and Chris Bosh signed six year contracts, each worth \$110.1 million, and Dwayne Wade re-signed for \$107.5 million for 6 years. That's a whole lot of money being spent for a net total of one championship ring (for Wade) in the 7 years since they were all drafted in 2003.</p> <p>With Wade and Bosh and James, the Heat will be so tight on the salary cap that they will have to start the janitor and hot dog vendor in the other two starting positions. And one can only guess who is coming off the bench at this point. Beyond that, it will be interesting to see if the egos all fit on the court at the same time.</p> <p>This is far beyond being a story of money or championships. All you have to do is look to Oklahoma City for the tale of, well, another city and another player that puts this all in perspective: [the King is gone, but he's not forgotten](# "Kevin Durant").</p> <p>Well, I suspect he will eventually be forgotten in Cleveland. And perhaps rightfully so.

You see, this may be a good thing for the Cavaliers. Sure, James sold a lot of tickets, scored a lot of points, and had them in the playoffs. But is he truly the all-world player that is going to step up, put the team on his shoulders, and win a championship regardless of who plays next to him? I doubt it. I don't ever remember [Michael Jordan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jordan "Michael Jordan") whining about not having a supporting cast. And that will be just one of the reasons why James simply isn't, and won't be, the next Jordan. Seven years later, no rings to show for his efforts, and I have my doubts about him getting a ring in Miami either.

And by the way, Cleveland just collected 4 draft picks from the Heat - two first rounders and two second rounders - spread out over as many as seven years. Used judiciously, that could create a true *team* that could get the job done without James.

In the meantime, while everyone was awe-struck by James' media antics, Kevin Durant signed a contract [worth somewhere between \\$85 and \\$86 million for the next 6 years](http://newsok.com/low-key-kevin-durant-announces-contract-extension-via-twitter/article/3474403 "Low-key Kevin Durant announces contract extension via Twitter"), and did so in the span of minutes. It took all of 140 characters posted on Twitter to make the [announcement](http://www.aolnews.com/surge-desk/article/the-anti-lebron-kevin-durant-re-signs-quietly-and-gracefully/19546499 "Kevin Durant re-signs quietly and gracefully") -

Exstension for 5 more years wit the #thunder....God Is Great, me and my family came a long way...I love yall man forreal, this a blessing!

Durant is a player with big stats, the 2009-2010 NBA leading scorer, and he even has some [humility](http://bleacherreport.com/articles/417133-nba-free-agency-no-underrating-kevin-durants-humility-in-me-first-era "No under-rating Kevin Durant's humility in Me-First era") to go along with it. Hold on a second, this is the NBA. Are you crazy? Does he really play in the NBA? Is this guy for real?

Yes. Durant is the real deal.

General manager Sam Presti so eloquently summed up the insanity of the week by stating that

"At a time when people think 'I,' Kevin thinks 'we.'"

Durant's approach to *team* sport is refreshing to say the least. He might use the line there is no I in team, whereas James might be heard uttering ah yes, but there is a me in team.

The real winner in this *Tale Of Three Cities* will be the first one to convert all of this into an NBA championship. So let's add a little drama, and write a script worthy of Dickens himself. Miami versus Oklahoma City in the 2012 Finals, Durant as MVP, and that championship ring once again not appearing on the finger of King James.

And Cleveland fans rejoicing along the way.

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