

SPORTS

Alphin, Elaine Marie **The Perfect Shot**

Brian uses basketball to block out memories of his girlfriend and her family who were gunned down a year ago, but the upcoming murder trial and a high school history assignment force him to face the past and decide how far he should go to see justice served.

Benjamin, E. M. J. **Takedown**

Jake Chapman, a star high school wrestler with a legitimate shot at winning the state championship, finds his life turned upside down when he is diagnosed with epilepsy.

Bennett, James **The Squared Circle**

Sonny, a university freshman and star basketball player, finds that the pressures of college life, NCAA competition, and an unsettling relationship with his feminist cousin bring up painful memories that he must face before he can decide what is important in his life.

Bloor, Edward **Tangerine**

Although Paul needs thick glasses to enable him to see well enough to do things other kids do, his instinctual vision isn't impaired. It's 20/20, allowing him to "see" behind the facade of Tangerine County, Florida, where his family has recently moved. As he tries to adjust to this bizarre new place, he finally has the opportunity to play soccer.

Brouwer, Sigmund **Maverick Mania**

The disappearance of his soccer team's leading scorer during the championship finals leads sixteen-year-old Matt to investigate and entangles him in a possible kidnapping.

Brouwer, Sigmund **Titan Clash**

Jack is a star player with everything going for him—then the unbelievable happens, and bad news leads to worse news. Almost as fast as the crash that put his mom in the hospital, everything that Jack believes in starts to crumble.

Carter, Caela **Tumbling**

After sacrificing their childhoods, Grace, Leigh, Camille, Wilhelmina, and Monica are competing in the two days of the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics Trials—which may change their lives forever.

Cochran, Thomas **Roughnecks**

Travis Cody prepares for the final game of his high school football career--a rematch with his school's chief rival.

Coleman, Michael **On the Run**

When a persistent youth offender is caught yet again, he is sentenced to community service as the partner to a blind runner.

Coy, John **Box Out**

High school sophomore Liam jeopardizes his new position on the varsity basketball team when he decides to take a stand against his coach who is leading prayers before games and enforcing team-wide participation.

Coy, John **Crackback**

Miles barely recalls when football was fun after being sidelined by a new coach, constantly criticized by his father, and pressured by his best friend to take performance-enhancing drugs.

Crutcher, Chris **Ironman**

While training for a triathlon, seventeen-year-old Bo attends an anger management group at school that leads him to examine his relationship with his father.

Crutcher, Chris **Stotan!**

A high school coach invites members of his swimming team to a memorable week of rigorous training that tests their moral fiber as well as their physical stamina.

Crutcher, Chris

Whale Talk

Intellectually and athletically gifted, TJ, a multiracial, adopted teenager, shuns organized sports and the gung-ho athletes at his high school until he agrees to form a swimming team and recruits some of the school's less popular students.

Deuker, Carl

Gym Candy

Running back Mick Johnson has dreams--dreams of cutting back, finding the hole, breaking into the open, and running free with nothing but green grass ahead. He has dreams of winning and of being the best. But football is a cruel sport. It requires power, grace, speed, quickness, and knowledge of the game. It takes luck, too. One crazy bounce can turn a likely victory into sudden defeat. What elite athlete wouldn't look for an edge? A way to make him bigger, stronger, faster?

Deuker, Carl

Heart of a Champion

Seth faces a strain on his friendship with Jimmy, who is both a baseball champion and something of an irresponsible fool, when Jimmy is kicked off the team.

Deuker, Carl

High Heat

When sophomore Shane Hunter's father is arrested for money laundering at his Lexus dealership, the star pitcher's life of affluence and private school begins to fall apart.

Deuker, Carl

Night Hoops

While trying to prove that he is good enough to be on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

Deuker, Carl

Payback Time

Overweight, somewhat timid Mitch reluctantly agrees to be the sports reporter for the Lincoln High newspaper because he is determined to be a writer, but he senses a real story in Angel, a talented football player who refuses to stand out on the field--or to discuss his past.

Deuker, Carl

Runner

Living with his alcoholic father on a broken-down sailboat on Puget Sound has been hard on seventeen-year-old Chance Taylor, but when his love of running leads to a high-paying job, he quickly learns that the money is not worth the risk.

Deuker, Carl

Swagger

High school senior point guard Jonas Dolan is on the fast track to a basketball career until an unthinkable choice puts his future on the line.

Dominy, Amy Fellner

A Matter of Heart

Sixteen-year-old Abby Lipman is on track to win the state swim championships and qualify for the Olympic trials when a fainting incident at a swim meet leads to the diagnosis of a deadly heart condition and forces her to discover who she is without the one thing that has defined her entire life.

Doty, Max

Surviving High School (and sequel)

Emily hopes to spend her freshman year avoiding the boy who killed her sister in a car accident. Her schedule is regimented with honors classes, grueling swim practices, and sleep. Without time for social events and dating, Emily is dubbed "Swimbot" by her swimming rival and tormentor, Dominique. After a magazine publishes an article about Emily's quest to continue her sister's swimming legacy, her social stock suddenly soars. Her life changes—but can it stay like this?

Dygaard, Thomas

Halfback Tough

New at Graham High, Joe joins the football team and begins to change his tough guy outlook as he becomes absorbed by the game and gains self-esteem and new friends.

Dygaard, Thomas

Quarterback Walk-on

When the fourth-string quarterback for a Texas college team suddenly finds himself next Saturday's starter, he has a plan for winning.

Dygaard, Thomas

The Rebounder

Chris has a dangerous secret that keeps him from playing the game he loves.

Dygaard, Thomas

The Rookie Arrives

Cocky Ted Bell moves from being star of his high school baseball team directly into playing in the major leagues and finds he has a lot to learn before becoming the world's greatest third baseman.

Dygaard, Thomas

Running Wild

When coach Wilson and Officer Stowell encourage him to join the high school team, Pete no longer believes that "nobody does anything for nothing."

Dygaard, Thomas

Second Stringer

Kevin must step in when Warren High's star quarterback is injured in the season opener.

Feinstein, John

Foul Trouble

College recruiters are clambering to sign up Terrell Jamerson, the #1 high school basketball player in the country. But not all of these recruiters are straight shooters, and Terrell will have to think fast if he wants to stay in the game.

Grisham, John

Bleachers

Fifteen years after graduation, Neely Crenshaw, one-time star quarterback of the Messina Spartans, returns home on hearing news of the impending death of tough-as-nails coach Eddie Rake.

Grisham, John

Calico Joe

Follows the divergent paths of a rookie hitter for the Chicago Cubs and a hard-hitting Mets pitcher.

Grisham, John

Playing for Pizza

Third-string Cleveland Browns quarterback Rick Dockery becomes the greatest goat ever by throwing three interceptions in the closing minutes of the AFC championship game. Fleeing vengeful fans, he finds refuge in the grungiest corner of professional football, the Italian National Football League, as quarterback of the inept but full-of-heart Parma Panthers.

Harris, Mark

Bang the Drum Slowly

The story of two very different baseball players who learn how to be men and respect themselves and each other.

Hautman, Pete

Rash

In the United Safer States of America of the late twenty-first century, a national obsession with safety has criminalized even minor antisocial impulses. Bo's dad was put away for road rage; the teen's own anger issues likewise land him in one of the country's privatized penal colonies. He makes pizzas for McDonald's until the camp's sadistic overseer recruits him to play football. The illegal sport is brutally violent but exhilarating--and Bo, a gifted athlete, slowly begins to question his culture's basic assumptions, identifying with crotchety Gramps' view that the country went to hell the day we decided we'd rather be safe than free. Science fiction.

Johnson, Scott

Safe at Second

Paulie Lockwood's best friend Todd Bannister is destined for the major leagues until a line drive to the head causes him to lose an eye, and they both must find a new future for themselves.

Kinsella, W. P.

The Iowa Baseball Confederacy

His quest to prove that the world-champion Chicago Cubs of 1908 met the amateur Iowa Baseball Confederacy in an epic game of more than two thousand innings brings Gideon Clarke and his friend Stan in touch with destiny. Fantasy (time travel).

Kinsella, W. P.

Shoeless Joe

Ray Kinsella's fanatic love of baseball drives him to build a baseball stadium in his cornfield and kidnap the author, J.D. Salinger, to bring him to a baseball game there. Fantasy.

Klass, David

A Different Season

High school baseball star Jim Roark is delighted to meet Jennifer Douglas, the second basewoman on the girls' softball team-- until she becomes the first female player on his all-male team.

Klass, David

Home of the Braves

Eighteen-year-old Joe, captain of the soccer team, is dismayed when a hotshot player shows up from Brazil and threatens to take over both the team and the girl whom Joe hopes to date.

Klass, David

Losers Take all

At a sports-crazy NJ high school where all kids must play on a team, a group of rebels start a soccer team designed to undermine the jock culture of the school.

Klass, David

Second Impact

When Jerry Downing, star quarterback in a small football town, gets a second chance after his drunk driving had serious consequences, Carla Jensen, ace reporter for the school newspaper, invites him to join her in writing a blog, mainly about sports.

Korman, Gordon

Pop

Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him but whose childish behavior (caused by the onset of Alzheimer's disease) keeps Marcus in hot water.

Lee, Fonda

Zeroboxer

As seventeen-year-old Carr Luka rises to fame in the weightless combat sport of zeroboxing, he learns a devastating secret that jeopardizes not only his future in the sport but interplanetary relations as well. Science fiction.

Lipsyte, Robert

The Contender (and sequel)

Against great odds, a black high school dropout trains to become a championship boxer.

Lipsyte, Robert

Yellow Flag

In any race, there are drivers and, at the front of the pack, there are racers. In the final laps, it's the racer who moves his car through the sweet spot, picks off the competition, and drives through a hole to win. In Kyle's family, his older brother, Kris, has always been the racer, born and bred to it, like his father and grandfather and great-grandfather before him. And that's just fine with Kyle; he has other things to do. Now Kris is out of commission, injured, and Kyle has no choice but to drive. Does he want to drive just long enough to keep Kris's seat warm, or does he want to race—and win?

Lupica, Mike

QB 1

Jake Cullen lives in the shadows of his father and older brother until he becomes the starting quarterback for the high school football team and finally has his chance to shine.

Luurtsma, Nat

Goldfish

A young swimmer is marginalized and bereft after her Olympics ambitions are dashed, compelling her to work as a coach for three popular boys with whom she forges a unique bond that is shaped by their different social statuses at school.

Lynch, Chris

Hit Count

Arlo Brodie loves being at the heart of the action on the football field. While his dad cheers him on, his mother quotes head injury statistics and refuses to watch, but Arlo's winning plays, the cheering crowds, and the adrenaline rush are enough to convince him that everything is OK, in spite of the pain, the pounding, the dizziness, and the confusion.

Lynch, Chris

Iceman

Fourteen-year-old Eric, a ruthless hockey player prone to violence on the ice, tries to reconcile his own needs with those of his parents.

Malamud, Bernard

The Natural

Roy Hobbs, a "natural" ball player, is on a train heading for Chicago and a tryout at the age of 19. Succumbing to the wiles of Harriet Bird, a dangerous paranoid who shoots athletes with silver bullets, his career is stopped before it starts. At 34 he returns to the mound and makes a meteorical rise to the top. But he seems doomed to destruction.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert

Dairy Queen (and sequels)

1st book in the Dairy Queen series. After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

Myers, Walter Dean

Hoops

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point-shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake.

Myers, Walter Dean

Slam!

Seventeen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

Pena, Matt de la

Ball Don't Lie

Seventeen-year-old Sticky lives for basketball and plays at school and at the Lincoln Rec Center in Los Angeles, but he is unaware of the many dangers—including his own past—that threaten his dream of playing professionally.

Pena, Matt de la

Mexican Whiteboy

Biracial Danny Lopez doesn't think he fits anywhere. He feels like an outsider with his Mexican father's family, with whom he is staying for the summer, and at his mostly white school, and he wonders if his confusion drove his father away. He also struggles with his obsession for baseball; even though he is a gifted player with a blazing fastball, he lacks control of his game. With the support of a new friend and his caring cousins, Danny begins to deal with the multitude of problems in his life which include his tendency to cut himself.

Powell, Randy

Dean Duffy

Eighteen-year-old Dean, a former high school baseball star whose future has been ruined by a batting slump and a bad arm, is offered a college baseball scholarship and finds himself uncertain of whether to take it.

Quick, Matthew

Boy 21

Finley, the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob. When his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

Rud, Jeff

Paralyzed

A football tackle gone wrong puts a boy in the hospital and leaves star linebacker Reggie Scott feeling confused, guilty, and alone.

Smith, Jennifer E.

The Comeback Season

High school freshman Ryan Walsh, a Chicago Cubs fan, meets Nick when they both skip school on opening day. Their blossoming relationship becomes difficult for Ryan when she discovers that Nick is seriously ill.

Strasser, Todd

Slide or Die (sequels)

1st book in the DriftX series. After moving to Las Vegas to be closer to his father who is in prison, Kennin can't resist his love for cars and, when he accidentally proves his talent for racing, is lured into a tuiso battle against the toughest drivers around.

Sweeney, Joyce

Players

Eighteen-year-old Corey sees a threat to his dream of winning the basketball championship when he discovers that the new player on his team is a girl-stealing, friend-framing, team-destroying force of evil.

Tharp, Tim

Knights of the Hill Country

In his senior year, high school star linebacker Hampton Greene finally begins to think for himself and discovers that he might be interested in more than just football.

Van Draanen, Wendelin

The Running Dream

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb. Her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

Volponi, Paul

Black and White

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

Volponi, Paul

The Final Four

Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Volponi, Paul

Game Seven

A sixteen-year-old shortstop in Cuba who dreams of playing with the pros must choose between his country and his father who defected to the U.S

Wallace, Rich

Restless

Herbie, 17, has taken on a lot in the last few weeks of summer. He has decided that he's going to participate in two sports in the fall-- football and cross-country. He is out late one night running through a graveyard when he senses someone following him. This feeling stays with him for the rest of his run and makes him more than a little uneasy but also a little intrigued. He begins to make this route a routine, and each time the presence becomes more intense.

Wallace, Rich

Shots on Goal

While pursuing his goal of helping his soccer team win the championship in the district playoffs, fifteen-year-old Bones tries to deal with his resentment of his best friend.

Wallace, Rich **Wrestling Sturbridge**

Stuck in small town Sturbridge, Pennsylvania, where no one ever leaves, and relegated by his wrestling coach to sit on the bench while his best friend Al becomes state champion, Ben decides he can't let his last high school wrestling season slip by without challenging his friend and the future.

Wallace, Sandra Neil **Muckers**

Felix O'Sullivan, standing in the shadow of his dead brother, an angry, distant father, and racial tension, must lead the last-ever Muckers high school football team to the state championship before a mine closing shuts down his entire town. Inspired by a true story.

Walters, Eric **Juice**

Moose must decide if he should risk taking steroids to become a big star on the football team.

Waltman, Kevin **Learning the Game**

Nate is looking forward to the start of the basketball season when he hopes to finally become a starter on his high-school team. One night in late summer, at the end of a pickup game, one of Nate's teammates suggests that they break into a local fraternity house. Despite his pangs of conscience, Nate goes along with the crime.

Weaver, Will **Saturday Night Dirt (and sequels)**

1st book in the Motor Novels series. This sports novel is set in rural Minnesota and centers on a quarter-mile dirt racetrack struggling for economic survival. The plot plays out over the course of one Saturday culminating in that evening's racing event.

Withers, Pam **Adrenalin Ride**

Jake and Peter help Ron, a former adventure guide, develop a mountain biking trail near the American border, but they soon sense that Ron is not telling the truth and begin to question his motives.

Withers, Pam **BMX Tunnel Run**

Fifteen-year-olds Jake and Peter share a burning desire to excel at as many extreme sports as they can and to surpass each other in the process. In BMX Tunnel Run, the two discover an underground maze of mining tunnels. Equipped with night-vision goggles, the teens have to defy a group of hostile riders as they struggle to find their way back to daylight. Along the way, the action is heightened when Peter is forced to deal with some personal misfortunes.

Withers, Pam **Dirtbike Daredevils**

Jake and Pete, 15-year-old friends, get work as guides at a dirt-bike trail outfitter and each does one part of the job well. It takes a series of disasters to convince the boys that successful dirt bikers can do it all.

Withers, Pam **Mountainboard Maniacs**

When a junior-guide training trip promises action on three of the Pacific Northwest's largest mountains, Jake and Peter shrug off the fact that all are sleeping volcanoes that could erupt at any time. Things heat up when at least one of the mountains begins rumbling, and matters get even more complicated by Peter's secret agenda, Jake's inner turmoil, and the arrival of two girls and a nasty senior guide.

Withers, Pam **Peak Survival**

Peter, Jake, and Moses, on a snowboarding trip in the backcountry, witness a helicopter crash. As they try to rescue the survivors, they are caught in an avalanche.

Withers, Pam **Skater Stuntboys**

Jake and Peter manage to get summer jobs as skateboarding stuntboys, but it is not as easy as it looks-- especially when it looks like someone might be trying to sabotage them.

Withers, Pam **Vertical Limits**

Jake becomes obsessed with solo-climbing the Bugaboo Mountains and enlists the help of his friend Peter, who decides to hide his fear of heights from a runaway girl who joins them on their expedition.

Withers, Pam **Wake's Edge**

Jake and Peter are junior instructors at a noisy wakeboard school that is attempting to share a remote lake with a community of Save-the-Earth Society dropouts (otherwise known as hippies). Jake and Peter love performing their own tricks behind a powerboat driven by the school's founder, a macho young wakeboard fanatic known as "the party animal." Peter decides to encourage the wild streak in a rebellious hippie girl across the lake. She runs away to hide in a nearby abandoned sawmill--only to discover it's not as abandoned as it looks.