

SPORTS

Alene, Catherine

The Sky between You and Me

Becoming obsessed with winning rodeo nationals to honor her late mother's memory, Rae distances herself from her loved ones and develops anorexia in her determination to meet the sport's demanding requirements.

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.

Bates, Sonya Spreen

Off the Rim

When Dylan should be concentrating on basketball, he and his girlfriend, Jenna, are run off the road one night by a black pickup truck. Jenna then starts receiving threats from an anonymous cyberbully telling her to keep quiet.

Bates, Sonya Spreen

Running on Empty

After a freak accident at the track, everything changes for Leon Kline, anchor of Gilburn High's 4 X 100 sprint relay team. Suddenly his future is gone. No scholarship, no college. When he meets Casey De Vries, life doesn't look so bleak. She even gets him running again. But as he gets to know Casey better, he realizes something is not quite right. How can he help her if she won't tell him what's going on?

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.

Blacker, Terence

Racing Manhattan

At the racing stable where she works, fifteen-year-old runaway Jay forms a bond with a mare named Manhattan who has used up all her chances at racing and fights to give the horse one last opportunity to show she is the champion she was born to be.

Bledsoe, Lucy Jane

No Stopping Us Now

In 1974, Louisa and her friends aren't satisfied with playing basketball in the gym before school because there is no school-sponsored basketball program. When she learns of the passage of Title IX two years earlier, though, Louisa asks her principal to start a girls' basketball team. She's soon viciously targeted by male coaches at her school, lied to by the school board, and dismissed as "out of line" as she fights for a fair chance to be an athlete.

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.

Buford, Candace

Kneel

For guys like Russell Boudreaux, football is the only way out of their small Louisiana town. As the team's varsity tight end, Rus has a singular goal: to get a scholarship and play on the national stage. When his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Rus faces an impossible choice: speak up or live in fear. Desperate for change, Rus kneels during the national anthem. In one instant, he falls from local stardom and becomes a target for hatred. With the help of his best friend and an unlikely ally, Rus will fight for his dreams, and for justice.

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, K. R.

The Recruit

With her family's farm failing, Tessa's best hope of attending college is a soccer scholarship, but the offer her best friend helps arrange would mean giving up her boyfriend.

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.

Cozzo, Karole

The Game Can't Love You Back

When a freak accident causes her school to be absorbed into a neighboring district, Eve, an only female star pitcher on the baseball team, navigates her way around new players who are not used to having a woman on the team, including a rival pitcher who is as cute as he is insufferable.

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

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.

Currinder, Michael

Running Full Tilt

Sixteen-year-old Leo Coughlin's life is increasingly stressful because his autistic older brother Caleb's behavior is becoming more bizarre and even violent, and their parents' marriage is falling apart--but Leo finds an escape in long distance running and in two new friends: Curtis, a potential state champion who teaches him the strategy of running, and Mary, his would-be girlfriend

Deuker, Carl

Golden Arm

Nineteen-year-old Lazarus (Laz) Weathers and his half-brother, Antonio, live with their mother in Jet City, a dilapidated trailer park in Seattle. When the boys' high school scraps its baseball program, the former coach convinces a few guys to play in the summer, among them Laz. The ragtag team goes up against other high schools in the area, and Laz's incredible pitching catches the attention of Mr. Thurman, the father of a star player at affluent Laurelhurst High. Mr. Thurman offers Laz a room in their house so that he can attend Laurelhurst, play baseball, and help his son's team win the state title (the main reason for his generosity). Itching to get out of Jet City, Laz knows this could be his chance at a better future and accepts. Just as everything seems to be going his way, including catching the eye of some major league scouts, Antonio gets into trouble, forcing Laz to weigh the value of family against getting an offer from the pros.

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

On the Devil's Court

Struggling with his feelings of inadequacy and his failure to make the basketball team in his new school, seventeen-year-old Joe Faust finds himself willing to trade his soul for one perfect season of basketball.

Girardi, Tamara

Shot in the Heart

In order to save money for college expenses, archery equipment, and a trip to visit her ex-boyfriend and convince him that dumping her was a mistake, Pennsylvania high-school senior and archery champion Elle Corwin takes a job at a summer camp for kids who are struggling with loss.

Graves, Byron

Rez Ball

These days Tre Brun is happiest when he is playing basketball on the Red Lake Reservation high school team--even though he can't help but be constantly gut-punched with memories of his big brother, Jaxon, who died in an accident. When Jaxon's former teammates on the varsity team offer to take Tre under their wing, he sees this as his shot to represent his Ojibwe rez all the way to their first state championship. This is the first step toward his dream of playing in the NBA, no matter how much the odds are stacked against him. But stepping into his brother's shoes as a star player means that Tre can't mess up--not on the court, not at school, and not with his new friend, gamer Khiana, who he is definitely not falling in love with. After decades of rez teams almost making it, Tre needs to take his team to state. Because if he can live up to Jaxon's dreams, their story isn't over yet.

Green, Holly

In the Same Boat

Sadie Scofield is entered in the Texas River Odyssey, 260 miles of brutal canoeing. For Sadie it is a chance to finally make up for ruining her father's chance of winning the previous year. When her brother Tanner suddenly opts to paddle for a different team, Sadie is left with Cully, a young man who was her best friend years ago. Now she has to spend 265 miles in the same boat with him. It's a chance to sort out her relationship with the boy she once tried to defend from his abusive father and to discover the truth about their feuding families.

Greenwald, Tommy

Dinged

Freshman quarterback Caleb Springer watches his father deteriorate from injuries he suffered playing the very same sport, forcing Caleb to consider whether playing football, the sport of his dreams, is worth risking irreparable physical harm.

Greenwald, Tommy

Game Changer

While freshman Teddy Youngblood fights for his life after a football injury at training camp, his friends and family gather to support him and discuss events leading to his coma.

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.

Heldring, Thatcher

The Football Girl

In the summer before high school, Tessa's decision to play football, instead of running cross-country, affects her blossoming romance with football prospect Caleb, her relationship with best friends Marina and Lexie, who are counting on Tessa to try out for cross-country, and her home life with her politically ambitious mother.

Henning, Sarah

Throw Like a Girl

When high school junior Liv Rodriguez is kicked off her private school's softball team and loses her scholarship, she must join her new school's football team to prove she can be a team player--then unexpectedly falls for the star quarterback.

Herbach, Geoff

Cracking the Bell

While recovering from a game-related concussion, football star Isaiah tries to envision what his life would be like without the game.

Herbach, Geoff

Hooper

Adopted from Poland three and a half years ago, Adam decides that basketball may be his "passport to a good life." Originally Adam Sobieski, the teen is now Adam Reed, his adoptive single mother's name, and life has gotten more complicated. The two of them have moved to a small Minnesota college town from Philadelphia, where Adam first began to learn basketball. With his increased height—he's now 6 feet 6 inches—he is gaining attention and is invited to play with an elite team in the Twin Cities. Teased for his poor English and social awkwardness, Adam has only one friend until Carli Anderson, also a basketball star, enters his life and pushes him in multiple ways. Gradually Adam begins to understand more than just the game.

Hill, Maggie

Sunday Money

Growing up working-class Catholic in 1970s Brooklyn, Claire Joyce--the youngest sibling of three street-smart older brothers, an overwhelmed, taxi--driving father, and an alcoholic mother--relies on the stability of basketball to lead her toward maturity and success, only to find her future jeopardized by the prejudices of her time.

Howling, Eric

Plunge

Cade must use his triathlon training if he's going to save his entire family.

Iacopelli, Jennifer

Finding Her Edge

With gold-medalist parents, and her older sister headed to the Olympics, all Adriana Russo wants is to live up to the family name and stand atop the ice dance podium at the Junior World Championships. But the only thing keeping the family's legendary skating rink afloat is a deal to host the rest of the Junior Worlds team before they leave for France. That means training on the same ice as her first crush, Freddie, the partner she left when her growth spurt outpaced his. Then her partner, Brayden, suggests they let the world believe that their intense chemistry isn't contained to the ice, to attract more fans and sponsors. Caught between her past, present, and the golden future she's worked so hard for, can Adriana take the pressure?

Keats, Israel

The Heir

Rob has always expected to be a soccer star like his father, but when his best friend and former teammate, Tyler, invites him to help form a band, Rob considers other possibilities.

Kester, Eric

Gut Check

When star quarterback Brett suffers a terrible concussion, his brother Wyatt must decide if keeping his brother's secret is worth the risk to their relationship and their town's economic future.

Khan, H. N.

Wrong Side of the Court

Dreaming of being the world's first Pakistani to be drafted into the NBA, fifteen-year-old Fawad Chaudhry must convince his mother to let him try out for the basketball team while also dealing with the neighborhood bully.

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

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.

Kreie, Chris

The Captain

When a scandal upsets the high school soccer team, the captain, Malik, struggles to bring his team back together and learn to trust a new coach.

Lipsyte, Robert

The Contender

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.

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.

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.

McGinnis, Mindy **Heroine**

When a car crash sidelines Mickey just before softball season, she has to find a way to hold on to her spot as the catcher for a team expected to make an historic tournament run--and the painkillers she's been prescribed can help her get there. But as the pressure to be Mickey Catalan heightens, her need increases. It becomes less about pain and more about want--something that could send her spiraling out of control.

Mendez, Yamile Saied **Furia**

In Rosario, Argentina, Camila Hassan leads a double life. At home, she is a careful daughter, living within her mother's narrow expectations, in the shadow of her soccer-star brother, and under the abusive rule of her short-tempered father. On the field, she is La Furia, a powerhouse of skill and talent. When her team qualifies for the South American tournament, Camila gets the chance to see just how far those talents can take her. But the path ahead isn't easy. Her parents would never allow a girl to play fútbol, and she needs their permission to go any farther. And the boy she once loved is back in town. Since he left, Diego has become an international fútbol celebrity, but things have changed for Camila, too: she has her own passions and ambitions, and Furia cannot be denied. As her life becomes more complicated, Camila is forced to face her secrets and make her way in a world unprepared for the dreams of a girl like her.

Monninger, Joseph **Game Change**

Zeb Holloway is an ordinary kid living in an ordinary town in rural New Hampshire. Sure, he's a quarterback on his high school's undefeated football team, but he's second-string and he never plays. Why would the coach play Zeb when T.T. Munroe's around? T.T.'s a walking, talking highlight reel--that is, until he's injured one week before the state championship game.

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.

Nash, Abbey Lee **Breathing Underwater**

Seventeen-year-old competitive swimmer Tess Cooper grapples with the upheaval of her carefully planned future following an epilepsy diagnosis and works to get back in the pool despite her doctor's advice or her distracting feelings for the new guy.

O'Connor, Heather **Betting Game**

Jack, a star player on his soccer team, gets involved with a bookie who introduces him to illegal betting.

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.

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.

Redd, Tara Wilson

Fierce as the Wind

It's spring of senior year in Oahu. While her friends are getting ready for college, Miho is deep in her misery after her boyfriend broke up with her without warning. Then inspiration strikes: she'll do a triathlon. An Ironman competition official race costs too much, so Miho's friends create one for her. The training is brutal for a girl who has never even run a mile-- at least she can bike and swim. With the constant support of her friends and her dad, Miho digs deep to find just how fierce her determination is and how many obstacles she can overcome in this race... and maybe even in her life.

Richmond, Peter

Always a Catch

After he joins the football team, Jack, a new junior and a skilled piano player at a preparatory boarding school, must decide how far he is willing to go to fit in with his new teammates and how much he is willing to compromise himself.

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.

Strasser, Todd

Slide or Die (and 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.

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

Volponi, Paul

Top Prospect

Travis, a pre-teen quarterback with big potential, gets the opportunity of a lifetime when the coach of Gainesville University football program offers him a scholarship before Travis even gets to high school.

Wallace, Becky

Stealing Home

Ryan Russell has life perfectly planned. She's going to take over her family's team, the Buckley Beavers, and become one of the only female general managers in minor league baseball. Then Sawyer Campbell shows up, and Ryan's carefully laid plans are thrown a major curveball. Sawyer is far more charming than the arrogant jocks she usually manages, though fraternizing is against every rule in the Beavers handbook.

Walters, Eric

Juice

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

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.

White, Ellen Emerson

A Season of Daring Greatly

Eighteen-year-old Jill Cafferty just made history. Her high school's star pitcher, she is now the first woman drafted by a major league baseball team. Only days after her high school graduation, she'll join the Pittsburgh Pirates' Class A Short Season team . . . but not everyone is happy to have her there.

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.