

Sports Fiction for Teens

Tangerine

Edward Bloor (YA BLOOR)

Paul may be blind, but that doesn't stop him from playing soccer or seeing through his family's lies. (Grades 6-8)

Jump

Elisa Carbone (YA CARBONE)

A chance meeting at a rock climbing gym becomes a dangerous cross-country evasion of the law via Red Rocks and Yosemite. (Grades 8+)

Leverage

Joshua Cohen (YA COHEN)

Gymnast Danny and a new football player form an unexpected bond in response to disturbing behavior by some members of the football team. (Grades 9+)

Crackback

John Coy (YA COY)

A crackback block comes from the outside and it can destroy you if you're not careful. On and off the field, Miles needs to look ahead, to remember there will be life after high school. (Grades 7+)

Tilt

Alan Cumyn (YA CUMYN)

Stan's entire life is basketball; he wants nothing more than to make the elite JV team...then a mysterious girl comes along. (Grades 9+)

Gym Candy

Carl Deuker (YA DEUKER)

A steroid edge may not be worth the side effects. (Grades 9+)

Ice Claw

Gilman, David (YA GILMAN)

In the French Pyrenees, an extreme sports challenge becomes a race to survive after Max is accused of causing the death of a Basque monk. (Grades 6-10)

The Brooklyn Nine

Alan Gratz (YA GRATZ)

Baseball spins through generations of a German immigrant family, from the Great Manhattan Fire of 1845 to the Civil War, racial prejudice and the Cold War era. (Grades 7-10)

Football Genius [series]

Tim Green (YA GREEN)

Predicting football is an amazing ability, but can it truly help your favorite team avoid another losing season? (Grades 6-8)

Hail Caesar

Thu Huong Ha (YA HA)

As a star basketball player, Caesar, has everything, on and off the court...or does he? (Grades 10+)

Open Ice

Pat Hughes (YA HUGHES)

Ace hockey player Nick gets a concussion on the ice, sending his life into a downward spiral.
(Grades 9+)

Jet Set

Carrie Karasyov (YA KARASYOV)

Studios and athletic Lucy gets a scholarship to an elite Swiss boarding school, where the distractions are too much, even for her, and it's hard to tell friends from foes. (Grades 8-11)

The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon

Stephen King (YA KING)

A girl. Lost in the woods. With nothing to see her through but her wits & her baseball hero. (Grades 9+)

Shakespeare Bats Cleanup [has sequel]

Ron Koertge (YA KOERTGE)

Mononucleosis forces Kevin to take a break from baseball...and hone his poetry skills. Sonnets and baseball collide! (Grades 6-9)

The Contender

Robert Lipsyte (YA LIPSYTE)

"It's the climbing that makes the man. Getting to the top is an extra reward." Will Alfred keep climbing, or give up? (Grades 6+)

Heat

Mike Lupica (YA LUPICA)

12-year-old star Michael Arroyo's one love is pitching, but now he's been barred. (Grades 6-8)

The Big Game of Everything

Chris Lynch (YA LYNCH)

"My grandfather possesses a shocking comb-over, a kilt, about half of his original marbles, and his own golf complex. This summer, we are going to be working for him." (Grades 7-9)

Dairy Queen [trilogy]

Catherine Murdock (YA MURDOCK)

D.J. wants to be more than a cow, since cows just "go along doing what they're supposed to do without complaining or even really noticing, until they die." (Grades 7+)

Slam!

Walter Dean Myers (YA MYERS)

On the court, Slam dunks! So why is his off-court life out of control? (Grades 8+)

Paranoid Park

Blake Nelson (YA NELSON)

He was just skateboarding in Portland. The murder part was an accident. (Grades 9+)

Jersey Tomatoes are the Best

Maria Padian (YA PADIAN)

New Jerseyan friends Henry and Eve must part ways, one for tennis camp in Florida, one for ballet in New York, putting longtime dreams of the future to the test. (Grades 7-10)

The Keeper

Mal Peet (YA PEET)

Trained by a mystical rainforest spirit, El Gato could be the greatest goalkeeper to ever play the game... (Grades 8+)

Ball Don't Lie

Matt de la Peña (YA PEÑA)

Professional basketball is Sticky's dream, but overcoming the dangers of inner-city Los Angeles stands in his way. (Grades 9+)

Pick-Up Game [short stories]

(YA PICK-UP)

A different perspective on a game of streetball played in "The Cage" of New York City, this story is told through short stories, poems and photographs. (Grades 8+)

The Ring

Bobbie Pyron (YA PYRON)

With her grades falling and her criminal record rising, Mardie's headed for self destruction. Then she discovers a girls' boxing club and a new way to box oneself out of a corner. (Grades 8-10)

Goal!: The Dream Begins [trilogy]

Rigby, Robert (YA RIGBY) *Santiago Munez has a lifelong plan to play world-class soccer. Play by heart-wrenching play, he perseveres on and off the field. (Grades 10+)*

Amazing Grace

Megan Shull (YA SHULL)

How does a tennis star escape the pressures of fame? Move to Alaska! (Grades 7-10)

Peak

Roland Smith (YA SMITH)

Getting to the top of Mount Everest can be tough—especially when you're 14! (Grades 6-8)

Knights of the Hill Country

Tim Tharp (YA THARP)

Being a star linebacker is a dream come true. For Hampton Green, it may mean deciding between friendships and the sport he loves. (Grades 8+)

Pretty Tough

Liz Tigelaar (YA TIGELAAR)

Krista is the popular girl; Charlie is the outcast surfer. Now they've got to work together on the soccer field. (Grades 7+)

The Running Dream

Wendelin Van Draanen (YA VAN DRAANEN)

After Jessica loses a leg in a school bus accident, her running aspirations seem dashed. But her track team has other ideas. (Grades 7+)

Rucker Park Setup

Paul Volponi (YA VOLPONI)

Mackey's in for the biggest basketball game of his life—on the court where his friend was murdered. (Grades 9+)

Diamond Ruby

Joseph Wallace (YA WALLACE)

In early 20th Century Brooklyn, Ruby suffered through epidemics, family deaths, and threats from the underworld. But she could throw pitches with the best of them. (Grades 10+)

Poser

Sue Wyshynski (YA WYSHYNSKI)

Recently moved to sunny California, Tallulah feels compelled to lie about her expert surfing skills until she's outed. Now there's only one thing to do... (Grades 8+)