

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.

Wallace, Rich — *Shots on Goal*

While pursuing his goal of helping his soccer team win the league championship, fifteen-year-old Bones tries to deal with his resentment of his best friend, on whose girlfriend he has a crush.

Williams, Michael—*Now is the Time for Running*

When soldiers attack a small village in Zimbabwe, Deo goes on the run with Innocent, his older, mentally disabled brother, carrying little but a leather soccer ball filled with money, and after facing prejudice, poverty, and tragedy, it is in soccer that Deo finds renewed hope.

Zadoff, Allen — *Food, Girls and Other Things I Can't Have*

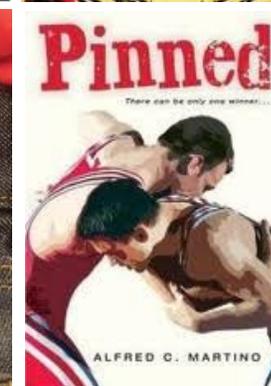
Fifteen-year-old Andrew Zansky, the second fattest student at his high school, joins the varsity football team to get the attention of a new girl on whom he has a crush.

Zalben, Jane— *Leap*

In the midst of the usual teenaged angst over romantic relationships and figuring out their place in the world, childhood friends Krista and Daniel reconnect when, in the sixth grade, Daniel is temporarily paralyzed.

What is Sports Fiction?

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WHAT IS SPORTS FICTION?

Sports fiction is a made up piece of literature where a sport has a specific impact on the plot or main characters.

Popular Titles

Crutcher, Chris.—*Whale Talk*

Intellectually and athletically gifted, T.J, 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 —*Painting the Black*

When star athlete Josh Daniels moves in across the street, Remy Ward doesn't realize how much his life will change during his senior year at Seattle's Crown Hill High.

Feinstein, John .—*Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery*

After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Hughes, Pat—*Open Ice*

Hockey has been Nick Taglio's life since he was five years old, so when a massive concussion benches him--possibly for good--everything seems to fall apart, including his schoolwork, his family relationships, his friendships, and his love life.

Lipsyte, Robert —*Raiders Night*

Matt Rydeck, co-captain of his high school football team, endures a traumatic season as he witnesses the rape of a rookie player by teammates and grapples with his own use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Lupica, Mike —*The Big Field*

When fourteen-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ball-player too.

Martino, Alfred —*Pinned*

Dealing with family problems, girls, and their own competitive natures, high school seniors Ivan Korske and Bobby Zane face each other in the final match of the New Jersey State Wrestling Championship.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert —*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 —*Game*

If Harlem high school senior Drew Lawson is going to realize his dream of playing college, then professional, basketball, he will have to improve at being coached and being a team player, especially after a new--white--student threatens to take the scouts' attention away from him.

Park, Linda Sue —*Keeping Score*

In Brooklyn in 1951, a die-hard Giants fan teaches nine-year-old Maggie, who is a "Bums" (Dodgers) fan, how to use a technique to keep score of a baseball game which creates a special friendship between them.

Peet, Mal—*Keeper*

In an interview with a young journalist, World Cup hero, El Gato, describes his youth in the Brazilian rain forest and the events, experiences, and people that helped make him a great goalkeeper and renowned soccer star.

Ritter, John H. —*The Desperado Who Stole Baseball*

In 1881, the scrappy, rough-and-tumble baseball team in a California mining town enlists the help of a quick-witted twelve-year-old orphan and the notorious outlaw Billy the Kid to win a big game against the National League Champion Chicago White Stockings.

Scaletta, Kurtis—*Mudville*

For twenty-two years, since a fateful baseball game against their rival town, it has rained in Moundville, so when the rain finally stops, twelve-year-old Roy, his friends, and foster brother Sturgis dare to face the curse and form a team.