

Keeper

by Mal Peet

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.

Open Ice

by Pat Hughes

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.

Sexy

by Joyce Carol Oates

Sixteen-year-old Darren Flynn, a popular, good-looking high school athlete who lacks self-confidence, learns that his friends are hatching a revenge act against their English teacher for failing a member of the swim team.

Box Out

by John Coy

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.

Slalom

by S.L. Rottman

Seventeen-year-old Sandro, having always lived in poverty with his mother in a wealthy ski resort town, finds his life transformed when the father he has never met suddenly returns and wants to be part of the family.

Gym Candy

by Carl Deuker

Groomed by his father to be a star player, football is the only thing that has ever really mattered to Mick Johnson, who works hard for a spot on the varsity team his freshman year, then tries to hold onto his edge by using steroids, despite the consequences to his health and social life.

The Girl Who Threw Butterflies

by Mick Cochrane

Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, but also helps in other aspects of her life.

Food, Girls and Other Things I Can't Have

by A. Zadoff

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.

Sports Fiction for Teens



Lay Ups and Long Shots: An Anthology of Short Stories

by various authors

A collection of nine short stories about middle-schoolers and sports. They range from a game of "H-O-R-S-E" to running, ping pong, dirt biking, surfing, place kicking, soccer, and basketball.

Swim the Fly

by Don Calame

"Fifteen-year-old Matt Gratton and his two best friends, Coop and Sean, always set themselves a summertime goal. This year's goal is to see a real-live naked girl for the first time. But the goal starts to look easy compared to Matt's other summertime aspiration: to swim the 100-yard butterfly (the hardest stroke known to God or man) as a way to impress Kelly West, the new star of the swim team."-
-Publisher

Football Genius

by Tim Green

Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.

The Big Field

by Mike Lupica

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

My Thirteenth Season

by Kristi Roberts

Downhearted due to the loss of her mother and her father's grief, thirteen-year-old Fran decides to give up her dream of becoming the first female in professional baseball after a coach attacks her for being a girl.

Tangerine

by Edward Bloor

Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

Amazing Grace

by Megan Shull

Tennis has a new "it" girl and her name is Grace Kincaid. The only problem is, Grace has suddenly realized that being a teen sensation isn't all it's cracked up to be. With fame and fortune just a backswing away, all she really wants is to be NORMAL!

Fat Boy Swim

by Catherine Forde

Teased and abused for being grossly overweight, Jimmy, a fourteen-year-old Scottish boy who dreams mysterious dreams and secretly aspires to become a chef, decides to turn his self-loathing life around by learning how to swim.

Yellow Flag

by Robert Lipsyte

Seventeen-year-old Kyle reluctantly succumbs to family pressure and replaces his injured brother in the family racecar. He struggles to keep up with his trumpet playing while deciding how--or if--he can continue making music with a brass quintet and headline as a NASCAR racer.

Million-Dollar Throw

by Mike Lupica

Eighth-grade star quarterback Nate Brodie's family is feeling the stress of the troubled economy, and Nate is frantic because his best friend Abby is going blind. When he gets a chance to win a million dollars if he can complete a pass during the halftime of a New England Patriot's game, he is nearly overwhelmed by the pressure to succeed.

Boost

by Katryn Mackel

Thirteen-year-old Savvy's dreams of starting for her elite basketball team are in danger when she is accused of taking steroids.

Peeling the Onion

by Wendy Orr

Following an automobile accident in which her neck is broken, a teenage karate champion begins a long and painful recovery with the help of her family.

River Thunder

by Will Hobbs

Despite some reservations, sixteen-year-old Jessie joins her companions from the previous year's adventure on the Colorado River for a legal rafting trip through the Grand Canyon. Sequel to *Downriver*.

The Off Season

by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

High school junior D.J. staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

The Chicken Doesn't Skate

by Gordon Korman

Wild things happen at the South Middle School when Milo's science project, Henrietta the chicken, becomes the hockey team's mascot and their only chance for a winning season.