Sports

Go team! Titles marked with an asterisk (*) are less than 300 pages long.

*Leverage* by Joshua Cohen | YA COH
High school sophomore Danny excels at gymnastics but is bullied, like the rest of the gymnasts, by members of the football team, until an emotionally and physically scarred new student joins the football team and forms an unlikely friendship with Danny.

*Gravity* by Sarah Deming | YA DEM
Sixteen-year-old Gravity Delgado has been breaking records and competitors since she started boxing with a legendary coach at age twelve, and now will reach the Olympics if her home life and romance do not distract her.

*Golden Arm* by Carl Deuker | YA DEU
Lazarus Weathers, a high school senior from the wrong side of the tracks, seeks to protect his half-brother while pitching his way out of poverty, one strike at a time. (from the catalog)

*Here to Stay* by Sara Farizan | YA FAR
Bijan is a varsity athlete at a Boston-area prep school whose otherwise ordinary life gets disrupted when a cyberbully torments him because of his Iranian-Jordanian heritage. (from Kirkus)

*See No Color* by Shannon Gibney | YA GIB
Alex has always identified herself as a baseball player, the daughter of a winning coach, but when she realizes that is not enough she begins to come to terms with her adoption and her race.

*Checked* by Cynthia Kadohata | YA KAD
An elite hockey player struggles with multiple real-world issues while sidelined from pursuing his dream of playing in the NHL. (from Kirkus)

*Losers Take All* by David Klass | YA KLA
When a football coach-turned-principal enforces a new policy requiring every senior to join an athletic team, a group of self-professed geeks, oddballs, and other nonathletes creates a team that challenges the high school's long-standing sports culture. (from Kirkus)

*Pop* by Gordon Korman | YA KOR
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 keeps Marcus in hot water.

*Goldfish* by Nat Luurtsema | YA LUU
Lou Brown is a fast individual medley swimmer, training for the Olympics. But when she tanks the time trials, she starts over and goes back to school. It's hard to fit in with the existing social groups. But then, she begins to coach boys in a different type of swimming activity, for a different type of competition.
Seventeen-year-old Camila Hassan, a rising soccer star in Rosario, Argentina, dreams of playing professionally, in defiance of her fathers’ wishes and at the risk of her budding romance with Diego.

*tMike by Andrew Norriss | YA NOR
Tennis-whiz Floyd knows exactly what he’ll be when he grows up; Mike, a new, mysterious acquaintance, has other ideas. (from Kirkus)

*Fierce as the Wind by Tara Wilson Redd | YA RED
In order to cope with a traumatic breakup and the uncertainty of life after high school, seventeen-year-old Miho decides to complete a triathlon and with the help of her family and friends learns just how far her determination can take her.

After the Shot Drops by Randy Ribay | YA RIB
Told from alternating perspectives, Bunny takes a basketball scholarship to an elite private school to help his family, leaving behind Nasir, his best friend, in their tough Philadelphia neighborhood.

The Berlin Boxing Club by Rob Sharenow | YA SHA
In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

All the Things We Never Knew by Liara Tamani | YA TAM
Carli and Rex have an immediate connection, an understanding that must mean first love, but family secrets, disappointments—and basketball, which holds center stage in both their lives—all create complications.

The Easy Part of Impossible by Sarah Tomp | YA TOM
After an injury forces Ria off the diving team she forms an unexpected friendship with Cotton, a neuro-divergent boy who helps her to see that Coach Benny’s training methods were actually abuse. Then Benny returns, offering Ria a second chance with a life-changing diving opportunity.

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen | YA VAN
When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

*The Final Four by Paul Volponi | YA VOL
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.

Unless otherwise noted, all plot descriptions are from our online catalog.