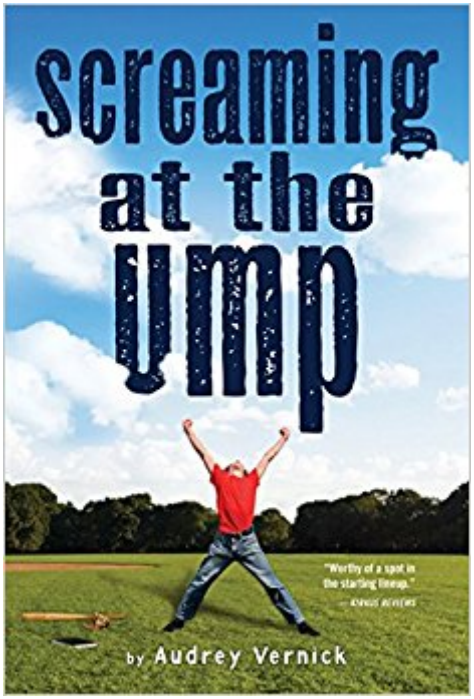
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Screaming At The Ump



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

Twelve-year-old Casey Snowden knows everything about being an umpire. His dad and grandfather run a New Jersey umpire school, Behind the Plate, and Casey lives and breathes baseball. CaseyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s dream, however, is to be a reporterÃ¢â ¬â •objective, impartial, and fair, just like an ump. But when he stumbles upon a sensational story involving a former major league player in exile, he finds that the ethics of publishing it are cloudy at best. This emotionally charged coming-of-age novel about baseball, divorce, friendship, love, and compassion challenges its readers to consider all the angles before calling that strike.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 7, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0544439376

ISBN-13: 978-0544439375

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.7 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #577,878 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Baseball & Softball #268 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Values & Virtues #555 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Boys & Men

Customer Reviews

Gr 5Ã¢â ¬â œ8Ã¢â ¬â •Most kids who are baseball-obsessed do not focus their obsession on umpiring. But since Casey's father and grandfather run the third best umpire school in the country, Casey's passion is understandable. He also wants to become a sports journalist. When one of his father's students is revealed as a former major league baseball player who disappeared after a steroid scandal, Casey thinks he has stumbled onto the scoop of the year. But after learning about journalistic objectivity, dealing with his parent's divorce, and helping keep his wacky best friend out of trouble, nothing is going Casey's way. Vernick has written a truly realistic 12-year-old boy in Casey. He is all kid; smart but impetuous, with a good heart. His yearning to be a reporter and get published without doing much work rings true, as does his eventual realization that big dreams do not happen without effort. The umpire school is an intriguing angle to use as a hook to the story.

There is enough baseball to keep fans interested, and yet not so much that it might turn off non-sports lovers. The book includes discussions of major league drug use, the aftereffects of divorce, and a bit of parental neglect, but everything is balanced; it all feeds the story, nothing seems thrown in for sensationalism. A solid choice for middle-grade readers.Ã¢â ¬â •Geri Diorio, Ridgefield Library, CT --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

a JLG selectionÃ Â "A strike is a strike, a ball is a ball. But what happens when the rules aren't so clear? You may scream at umpires, but you'll cheer and whoop for a kiddo who's trying with all his heart and guts to find a right way."Ã Â --Gary Schmidt, two-time Newbery Honor winner and National Book Award FinalistÃ Â Ã Â "Screaming at the Ump will make kids cheer! Baseball fans will love these funny, heart-warming characters, and the unique view of the game from behind the plate."--Tim Green, New York Times bestselling author of Baseball Great and Best of the BestÃ Â Ã Â "This novel is a true original. If youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve never read about umpireÃ¢â ¬â„¢s school before (and, seriously, who has?) youÃ¢â ¬â„¢re going to enjoy this book. VernickÃ¢â ¬â„¢s writing is funny, poignant, and especially wise when it comes to dispelling the preconceived notions we sometimes cling to."Ã Â -- Todd Strasser, internationally bestselling author of The Wave, Fallout, andÃ Â other titles

I don't read a ton of middle grade (or books about sports for that matter), but I was intrigued by the journalism angle in SCREAMING AT THE UMP and would definitely recommend this to budding reporters. Casey has grown up surrounded by baseball because his father runs a school for umpires. But he himself doesn't want to be an ump, or even a player. He wants to write about baseball, and now that he's starting middle school, he'll finally have the chance to be on a newspaper staff.Only when he gets there, he finds out that 6th graders never get to write -- they have to pay their dues by selling ad space. But what if the story of the century just happens to fall in his lap? What if a disgraced former major league player just happens to be at his father's ump school? In the course of pursuing his big break, Casey learns a lot about being objective and the importance of second chances.

Screaming at the Ump gave me a look inside an Umpire School, something I didn't even know existed. It also introduced me to young Casey Snowden, a sixth grader intent on making his mark in the world of journalism and figuring out what to do about his family. Casey is a well-developed character that I really enjoyed reading. His strong voice carries this story, and he always felt totally

real to me. His anxiety about middle school, his mother, and his future all rang true. I was right there with him as he struggled through bad decisions, no decisions, and even as he fought to accept things when decisions were forced upon him. Casey offered up a true, emotional and heart felt portrayal of what it feels like to be of an age when you think you are old enough for everything then find out you still have a ways to go. He learns some valuable lessons in this story, but nothing ever comes across as heavy handed.You don't have to be a baseball fan to enjoy this book! It's really funny, and the interactions between Casey and his friends are just priceless. I learned a lot about umpiring, and I think I will look at those umpires a bit differently the next time I attend a game. I really liked how the author brought in the drug abuse issues among baseball players. Casey has to confront some hard truths in this story, and I thought the author did a masterful job of pointing out the gray areas.Screaming at the Ump is a well written, often poignant coming of age tale that will hold special appeal to baseball fans, although most anyone will be able to relate to young Casey.

Casey Snowden, the third generation of a family that runs a school for umpires, dreams of being a sports writer. He joins the middle school newspaper staff, convinced he's on his way to stardom. Of course, there are obstacles. The newspaper's tradition is that sixth graders don't write for the paper; they just sell ads. The teacher/advisor enforces that unwritten rule, as does an eighth-grader who has a beef against Casey's dad. There's trouble at home, too, as Casey's parents are divorced and his mom is pushing to see Casey more. But since she was the one who left, Casey has no interest in cooperating.I would have given the book five stars but for a few things. Most importantly, any teacher I know would not stonewall a student who is striving to reach a goal. I guess it wouldn't have served the plot well if instead of blindly upholding tradition, he had instead sat down with Casey and guided him through the makings of a good story. Instead, he just rejects Casey's first effort with offhand comments about what it lacks. Secondly, the story Casey runs with is a bonafide scoop that would make any newspaperman's blood race. What he finally does with the story is disappointing. (Not to mention, it's totally unbelievable that the major league player on whom the plot turns could just disappear after his involvement in a doping scandal.)The plotting is swift, with several subplots that tie together well. For this audience, humor is important; I found the plots and the characters' actions amusing, but the dialog was a little flat. The author misses some great chances at humor; for example, she says Casey's best friend Zeke brings weird things in his school lunches, but then it's just crackers and a candy bar, or a banana and two chocolate chip cookies. No laughs there. And, I was distracted by her habit of mentioning something that has a backstory, but then not giving it until much later. For example, on page 31 Casey calls his mom Mrs. Bob the Baker, but we don't

find out why until page 66. For more than thirty pages, I was distracted wondering about his mom and her nickname.All in all, I did like the book, though, and it would certainly satisfy a baseball-loving reader. For my own son, getting out there on the field was more vital to him than reading, so I was willing to put almost any book with a baseball theme into his hands. A story that will keep a reluctant reader happy is okay in my book.

Download to continue reading...

Screaming at the Ump What No One Tells the Bride: Surviving the Wedding, Sex After the Honeymoon, Second Thoughts, Wedding Cake Freezer Burn, Becoming Your Mother, Screaming about Money, Screaming about In-Laws, etc. The Screaming Room: A Mother's Journal of Her Son's Struggle With AIDS, a True Story of Love, Dedication And Courage Opera: What's All the Screaming About? What No One Tells the Bride: Surviving the Wedding, Sex After the Honeymoon, Second Thoughts, Wedding Cake Freezer Burn, Becoming Your Mother, Screaming ... and Being Blissfully Happy Despite It All The Road to Arnhem: A Screaming Eagle in Holland Bleeding Orange: Fifty Years of Blind Referees, Screaming Fans, Beasts of the East, and Syracuse Basketball Screaming Eagles (The Front, Book 1) 101st Airborne: The Screaming Eagles in World War II

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help