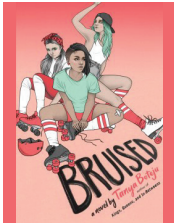


# YA SPORTS STORIES

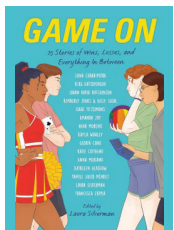


Are you interested in reading some fiction centered around sports? The following books all have teenage main characters playing sports and learning about life.



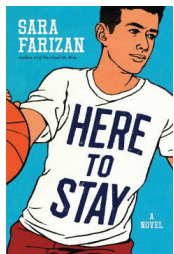
## ***Bruised* by Tanya Boteju** (Y Boteju)

Daya Wijesinghe sees a bruise as a mixture of comfort and control, but joining a roller derby team push her toward big truths about love, loss, strength, and healing.



## ***Game On: 15 Stories of Wins, Losses, and Everything in Between* Edited by Laura Silverman** (Y Game)

A charming and inclusive YA anthology all about games—from athletic sports to board games to virtual reality.



## ***Here to Stay* by Sara Farizan** (Y Farizan)

What happens when Bijan Majidi who's flown under the radar for most of high school gets pulled off the bench to make the winning basket in a varsity playoff game? Life is suddenly high fives in the hallways and invitations to exclusive parties—along with an anonymous photo that makes Bijan look like a terrorist. Lots of classmates rally around Bijan. But it's not always easy to tell your enemies from your friends.



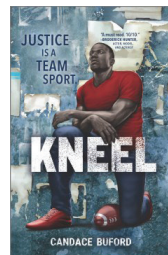
## ***Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute* by Talia Hibbert** (Y Hibbert)

Bradley is pretty much perfect: he's a star football player, manages his OCD, and comes out on top in all his classes, except the ones he shares with Celine. These days, there's nothing between them but insults and academic rivalry. So when Celine signs up for a two-part survival course in the woods, the last thing she expects is to find Brad right beside her.



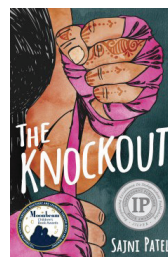
## ***Icebreaker* by A. L. Graziadei** (Y Graziadei)

Mickey James III is following in his father's skates by playing hockey at Hartland University, but he isn't enjoying the situation: for one thing, he is seriously depressed, unsure of anything, even whether he can make it as a hockey player (or wants to); more troubling his rival, Jaysen Caulfield, is also on the team and seems to bitterly resent him.



## ***Kneel* by Candace Buford** (Y Buford)

When his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Russell Boudreaux kneels during the national anthem in an effort to fight for justice and, in an instant, falls from local stardom to become a target of hatred.



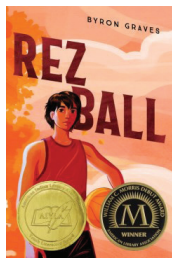
## ***The Knockout* by Sajni Patel** (Y Patel)

When Kareena Thakkar finally admits she is a top-level Muay Thai fighter, knowing that might further alienate her from her Indian community, her classmates, especially handsome Amit, enthusiastically support her.



## ***The Other Side of Perfect* by Mariko Turk** (Y Turk)

A terrifying fall shatters Alina Keeler's leg—and her dreams of a professional ballet career along with it. After a summer healing, she is forced to trade her pre-professional dance classes for normal high school, where she reluctantly joins the school musical.



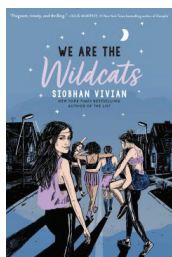
**Rez Ball** by Byron Graves  
(Y Graves)

These days, Tre Brun is happiest when he is playing basketball on the Red Lake Reservation high school team. When his brother's former teammates offer to take Tre under their wing, he sees this as his shot to represent his Ojibwe rez all the way to their first state championship.



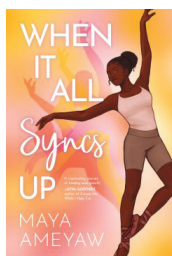
**They'll Never Catch Us**  
by Jessica Goodman (Y Goodman)

Sisters Stella and Ellie Steckler are both determined to win a scholarship and escape their stifling small town, but their plans are upset when a new girl joins the cross country team and then disappears.



**We Are The Wildcats**  
by Siobhan Vivian (Y Vivian)

After enduring a week of punishing try-outs and making the cut for the girls varsity field hockey team, new players must participate in a night of questionable bonding traditions and loyalty tests, orchestrated by the most senior girls on the squad and performed with the implicit permission of their seemingly all-American young male coach.



**When It All Syncs Up**  
by Maya Ameyaw (Y Ameyaw)

Ballet is Aisha's life. So when she's denied yet another lead at her elite academy because she doesn't "look" the part, she knows something has to change—the constant discrimination is harming her mental health. Aisha will have to find the strength within herself—and place her trust in others—to make her next move.



**Why We Fly** by Kimberly Jones,  
Gilly Segal (Y Jones)

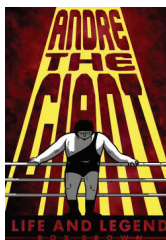
Told from alternating points of view, Chanel and Eleanor's rocky start to senior year gets more complex when the cheerleading team kneels for the national anthem and each girl grapples with the consequences.



**You Don't Have a Shot**  
by Racquel Marie (Y Marie)

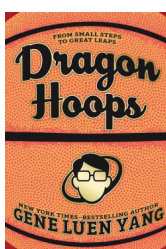
Valentina jeopardizes her future when she gets into an altercation with her rival during a soccer game, so the two girls must co-captain a soccer team to redeem themselves and what starts as a shaky alliance of necessity blossoms into something more.

**GRAPHIC NOVELS**



**Andre the Giant: Life and Legend**  
by Box Brown  
(GN 796.81292 Andre Bro)

Drawing from historical records about Andre's life, as well as a wealth of anecdotes from his colleagues in the wrestling world and his film co-stars.



**Dragon Hoops** by Gene Luen Yang  
(GN 741.5092 Yang Yan)

Gene understands stories—comic book stories. But Gene doesn't get sports. As a kid, his friends called him "Stick," and every basketball game he played ended in pain. He lost interest in basketball long ago, but at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about.



**Fence Volume 1** by C.S. Pacat  
(GN Fence v. 1)

Nicholas, the illegitimate son of a retired fencing champion and dreams of getting the chance and the training to actually compete. After getting accepted to the prodigious Kings Row private school, Nicholas is thrust into a cut-throat world.



**Slam! Volume One** by Pamela Ribon  
(GN Slam v. 1)

In the fast-paced, hard-hitting, super cheeky, all-female world of banked track roller derby, two young women will have to decide if their budding friendship is stronger than the pull of a team when a win is on the line.



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