

**Non-Fiction books about Baseball:**

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*Practice Perfect Baseball* by Bob Bennett  
796.357077 PRACTICE

*Splitters, Squeezes, and Steals: The Plays, Strategies, and Rules of Baseball* by Derek Gentile 796.357 GENTILE

*Confessions of a She-Fan: The Course of True Love with the New York Yankees* by Jane Heller  
796.357 HELLER

*Sixty Feet, Six Inches: a Hall of Fame Pitcher & a Hall of Fame Hitter Talk about how the Game is Played* by Bob Gibson 796.357 GIBSON

*Willie Mays: The Life, the Legend* by James A. Hirsch 796.357092 HIRSCH

*Play Ball like the Pros: Tips for Kids from 20 Big League Stars* by Steven Krasner  
J 796.3572 KRASNER

*The Rocket that Fell to Earth: Roger Clemens and the Rage for Baseball Immortality* by Jeff Pearlman  
796.357092 PEARLMAN

*Becoming Manny: Inside the Life of Baseball's Most Enigmatic Slugger* by Jean Rhodes 796.357092 RHODES

*The Rise of the Bulldogs: The Untold Story of One of the Greatest Upsets of All Time* by Dan Taylor  
796.357 TAYLOR

*The Baseball Codes: Beanballs, Sign Stealing, and Bench-clearing Brawls: The Unwritten Rules of America's Pastime* by Jason Turbow  
796.357 TURBOW



Young Adult Books  
about the National  
Pastime



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## Fiction books about Baseball:

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### ***Playing the Field* by Phil Bildner YP FIC BILDNER**

When seventeen-year-old Darcy Miller pretends to be a lesbian in order to play on the boys' baseball team, she must learn to battle discrimination on every playing field.

***Beanball* by Gene Fehler YP FIC FEHLER** Relates, from diverse points of view, events surrounding the critical injury of popular and talented high school athlete Luke "Wizard" Wallace, when he is hit in the face by a fastball.

***Change Up: Mystery at the World Series* by John Feinstein YP FIC FEINSTEI** While covering baseball's World Series between the Washington Nationals and the Boston Red Sox, teenage sports reporters Stevie and Susan Carol investigate a rookie pitcher whose evasive answers during an interview reveal more than a few contradictions in his life story

***Screwball* by David Ferrell YP FIC FERRELL** Ron Kane, the newest pitcher for the Boston Red Sox may be the key to finally breaking the Curse of the Bambino and winning a World Series. Unfortunately, he may also be a murderer. A hilarious look at what we are willing to do for sports greatness.

***Tartabull's Throw* by Henry Garfield YP FIC GARFIELD** In 1967, an encounter with a mysterious young woman from Maine involves a nineteen-year-old baseball player in an investigation of a vicious, murderous werewolf.

### ***Samurai Shortstop* by Alan Gratz YP FIC GRATZ**

While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training, which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.

### ***Shakespeare Bats Cleanup* by Ronald Koertge YP FIC KOERTGE**

When a fourteen-year-old baseball player catches mononucleosis, he discovers that keeping a journal and experimenting with poetry not only helps fill the time, it also helps him deal with life, love, and loss.



### ***The Big Field* by Mike Lupica YP FIC LUPICA**

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 ballplayer too.

***Heat* by Mike Lupica YP FIC LUPICA** Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

***Boy Toy* by Barry Lyga YP FIC LYGA** After five years of fighting his way past flickers of memory about the teacher who molested him and the incident that brought the crime to light, eighteen-year-old Josh gets help in coping with his molester's release from prison when he finally tells his best friends the whole truth in this frank and serious novel.

***Gold Dust* by Chris Lynch YP FIC LYNCH** In 1975, twelve-year-old Richard befriends Napoleon, a Caribbean newcomer to his Catholic school, hoping that Napoleon will learn to love baseball and the Red Sox, and will win acceptance in the racially polarized Boston school.

***Mexican White Boy* by Matt Pena YP FIC PENA** Sixteen-year-old Danny searches for his identity amidst the confusion of being half-Mexican and half-white while spending a summer with his cousin and new friends on the baseball fields and back alleys of San Diego County, California.

### ***My 13<sup>th</sup> Season* by Kristi Roberts YP FIC ROBERTS**

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

### ***The Comeback Season* by Jennifer E. Smith YP FIC SMITH**

High school freshman Ryan Walsh, a Chicago Cubs fan, meets Nick when they both skip school on opening day, and their blossoming relationship becomes difficult for Ryan when she discovers that Nick is seriously ill and she again feels the pain of losing her father five years earlier.

### ***7 Days at the Hot Corner* by Terry Trueman YP FIC TRUEMAN**

Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay.

### ***Hard Hit* by Ann Warren Turner YP FIC TURNER**

A rising high school baseball star faces his most difficult challenge when his father is diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

### ***Farm Team* by Will Weaver YP FIC WEAVER**

With his father in jail and his mother working full-time, fourteen-year-old Billy Baggs finds himself in charge of running the family farm in northern Minnesota and having to give up the thing he loves most--baseball.