



March Madness

Basketball Books for Teens

The following books are located in the YA (Teen) section, alphabetical by author's last name.

Alphin, Elaine Marie. ***The Perfect Shot***

Brian uses basketball to block out memories of his girlfriend and her family who were gunned down a year ago, but the upcoming murder trial and a high school history assignment force him to face the past and decide how far he should go to see justice served.

Averett, Edward. ***The Rhyming Season***

A senior basketball-player shoulders the hopes of a dying mill town and her bereaved family when she and an eccentric English teacher-coach try to lead their team to state basketball history.

Collier, Kristi. ***Throwing Stones***

In 1923, in Pierre, Indiana, fourteen-year-old Andy realizes a dream when he makes the high school basketball team, but when an accident keeps him from playing, he ventures into journalism and begins to understand the meaning of sportsmanship.

Coy, John. ***Box Out***

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 teamwide participation.

Deuker, Carol. ***Night Hoops***

While trying to prove that he is good enough to on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

Feinstein, John. ***Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery***

After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Foley, John. ***Hoops of Steel***

Passionate about basketball, troubled teenager Jackson O'Connell chronicles the ways the game colors the events of his senior year in high school.

Klass, David. ***Danger Zone***

When he joins a predominantly black "Teen Dream Team" that will be representing the United States in an international basketball tournament in Rome, Jimmy Doyle makes some unexpected discoveries about prejudice, racism, and politics.

Krech, Bob. ***Rebound***

Determined to make the varsity basketball team, seventeen-year-old Ray finds his efforts to play both hindered and helped by the atmosphere of racism in his town.

Mackel, Kathy. ***Boost***

Thirteen-year-old Savvy is six two and full of raw basketball talent; her three-point shot is deadly. But when steroids are found in Savvy's gym bag, accusations start flying and nobody knows who is telling the truth.

Myers, Walter Dean. ***Game***

If Harlem high school senior Drew is going to realize his dream of playing college, then professional, basketball, he will have to improve at being coached and being a team player, especially after a new – white - student threatens to take the scouts' attention away from him.



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Myers, Walter Dean. **Hoops**

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake.

Myers, Walter Dean. **Slam**

Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

Parker, Robert B. **Edenville Owls**

Fourteen-year-old Bobby, living in a small Massachusetts town just after World War II, finds himself facing many new challenges as he tries to pull together his coachless basketball team, cope with new feelings for his old friend Joanie, and discover the identity of the mysterious stranger who seems to be threatening his teacher.

Rahlens, Holly-Jane. **Prince William, Maximilian Minsky, and Me.**

In Berlin, thirteen-year-old Nelly Sue Edelmeister - a self-described nerd and aspiring astronomer - gains a greater understanding of herself and those around her as she develops her first crush, considers whether to go through with her bat mitzvah, and tries out for the basketball team.

Ripslinger, Jon. **How I Fell in Love and Learned to Shoot Free Throws**

Seventeen-year-old Danny Henderson, an indifferent basketball player, has his eye on Angel McPherson, star of the girls' team in their Iowa high school.

Sitomer, Alan Lawrence. **The Hoopster**

Andre Anderson is a black teenager who loves to play basketball. When he is viciously attacked, it calls his whole world into question - even his deadly jumpshot.

Sweeney, Joyce. **Players**

Eighteen-year-old Corey sees a threat to his dream of winning the basketball championship when he discovers that the new player on his team is a girl-stealing, friend-framing, team-destroying force of evil.

Trueman, Terry. **Cruise Control**

A talented basketball player struggles to deal with the helplessness and anger that come with having a brother rendered completely dysfunctional by severe cerebral palsy and a father who deserted the family.

Volponi, Paul. **Black and White**

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

Volponi, Paul. **Rucker Park Setup**

While playing in a crucial basketball game on the very court where his best friend was murdered, Mackey tries to come to terms with his own part in that murder and decide whether to maintain his silence or tell J.R.'s father and the police what really happened.

Wallace, Rich. **Playing Without the Ball: A Novel in Four Quarters**

Feeling abandoned by his parents, who have gone their separate ways and left him behind in a small Pennsylvania town, seventeen-year-old Jay finds hope for the future in a church-sponsored basketball team and a female friend.

Waltman, Kevin. **Learning the Game**

When he and his high-school basketball teammates steal from a fraternity house in their small Indiana town, Nate contends with his guilt, his loyalty to his friends, and his desire to help his older brother who comes under suspicion for the crime.

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