THE REST OF MY LIFE IS A MESS, BUT **AT LEAST** ON THE **PITCH I GET** TO DO **WHAT I** LOVE.

> YAMILE SAIED MÉNDEZ FURIA



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**TEENS** 

# SPORTS FICTION





Home Field Advantage 🔀 Dahlia Adler (T ADLER, D) Amber McCloud's dream is to become cheer captain at the end of the year, but after the football team's quarterback dies in an accident and is replaced by a girl. Amber knows she should work against this unliked Jaclyn to keep her cheer status but the two fall for each other.

Ball Don't Lie

Matt De la Peña (T DE LA PEÑA, M) Seventeen-year-old Sticky lives to play basketball at school and at Lincoln Rec Center in Los Angeles and is headed for the pros, but he is unaware of the many dangers--including his own past--that threaten his dream.

Gravity

Sarah Deming (T DEMING, S) 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.



Here to Stav

Sarah Farizan (T FARIZAN, S) When a cyberbully sends the entire high school a picture of basketball hero Bijan Majidi, photo-shopped to look like a terrorist, the school administration promises to find and punish the culprit, but Bijan just wants to pretend the incident never happened and move on.

### **Backfield Boys**

John Feinstein (T FEINSTEIN, J)

When best friends Tom and Jason leave New York City for an elite, sports-focused boarding school in Virginia to play football, they find some coaches and teammates to be steeped in racism.

## Making a Play

Abbi Glines (T GLINES, A)

In the small town of Lawton, Alabama, high school senior Ryker, a player on and off the football field, falls in love with a deaf girl who lives with her overprotective twin brother and bigoted father.

### Icebreaker 🔀

A.L. Graziadei (T GRAZIADEI, A.L.) Seventeen-vear-old Mickey James III is a college freshman, a brother to five sisters, and a hockey legacy. With a father and a grandfather who have gone down in NHL history, Mickey is almost guaranteed the league's top draft spot. The only person standing in his way is Jaysen Caulfield, a contender for the #1 spot and Mickey's infuriating (and infuriatingly attractive) teammate. When rivalry turns to something more. Mickey will have to decide what he really wants. and what he's willing to risk for it.



Throw Like a Girl

Sarah Hennina (T HENNING, S) When high school junior Liv Rodriguez is kicked off her private school's softball team and loses her scholarship she must join her new school's football team to prove she can be a team player, all while falling for the star quarterback.

### Cracking the Bell

Geoff Herbach (T HERBACH, G) While recovering from a game-related concussion, football star Isaiah wonders what his life would be like without the game.

# Like Other Girls 🔀

Britta Lundin (T LUNDIN, B)

After Mara is kicked off the basketball team for fighting, her coach gives her an ultimatum--go one season on another team sport without losing her temper or her basketball hiatus will be permanent. When she joins the football team she doesn't expect to fall in love with the sport. And she definitely doesn't expect to inspire four more girls, including her biggest crush and greatest enemy, to join the team as well.



Furia 🛑

Yamile Saied Méndez (T MENDEZ, Y) 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.

### This Is How We Fly

Anna Meriano (T MERIANO, A) Ellen Lopez-Rourke has one muggy Houston summer left before college. When she is grounded for the entire summer by her (sometimes) evil stepmother, all her plans are thrown out the window. Ellen convinces her parents to let her join the local muggle Quidditch team. An all-gender, full-contact game, Quidditch isn't quite what Ellen expects. There's no flying, no magic, just a bunch of scrappy players holding PVC pipe between their legs and throwing dodgeballs. As her two BFFs start moving on from high school-- and from Ellen-- she begins to find a place among her teammates.



Game Change

Joseph Monninger (T MONNIGER, J) When the first string quarterback is injured a week before the state championship game, Zeb Holloway finds himself starting and realizing he may have a future outside his rural New Hampshire town.

## After the Shot Drops

Randy Ribay (T RIBAY, R)

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.



Stand-Off

Andrew Smith (T SMITH, A) Now a senior at Pine Mountain Academy, fifteen-year-old Ryan Dean West becomes captain of the rugby team, shares his dormitory room with a twelveyear-old prodigy, Sam Abernathy, and through the course of the year learns to appreciate things he has tried to resist, including change.

### Game Seven

Paul Volponi (T VOLPONI, P)

A sixteen-year-old shortstop in Cuba who dreams of playing with the pros must choose between his country and his father who defected to the U.S.