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New York Times bestselling author of *One Last Word* and Coretta Scott King award-winning Bronx Masquerade Nikki Grimes offers fresh novel in verse story about young heartbreak and hope. For twelve years, Joylin Johnson's life has been just fine. A game of basketball with the boys—especially her friend Jake—was all it took to put a smile on her face. Baggy jeans, T-shirt, and hair in a ponytail were easy choices. Then, everything suddenly seemed to change all at once. Her best girl friend is now flirting with her best guy friend. Her clothes seem all wrong. Jake is acting weird, and basketball isn't the same. And worst of all, there is this guy, Santiago, who appears from . . . where? What lengths will Joy go to—and who will she become—to attract his attention? In short poems that perfectly capture the crazy feelings of adolescence and first crushes, award-winning author Nikki Grimes has crafted a delightful, often hilarious, heart-tugging story. What Comes Down To Us features twenty-five of Kentucky's most accomplished contemporary poets. Together they serve to illustrate the diversity and richness of poetry being written today in the Commonwealth. The poems were collected by Jeff Worley, a poet who has lived in Kentucky for more than two decades. Although the subject matter of the poems transcends the state's borders, the collection communicates a strong sense of Kentucky as a place. Worley's introduction places contemporary Kentucky poetry in the context of the state's rich literary tradition, and the poet biographies include their reflections and, often, their poetic approach and technique. A collection of poems about the sport of basketball. *Be Holding* is a love song to legendary basketball player Julius Erving—known as Dr. J—who dominated courts in the 1970s and '80s as a small forward for the Philadelphia '76ers. But this book-length poem is more than just an ode to a magnificent athlete. Through a kind of lyric research, or lyric meditation, Ross Gay connects Dr. J's famously impossible move from the 1980 NBA Finals against the Los Angeles Lakers to pick-up basketball and the flying Igbo and the Middle Passage, to photography and surveillance and state violence, to music and personal histories of flight and familial love. *Be Holding* wonders how the imagination, or how our looking, might make us, or bring us, closer to each other. How our looking might make us reach for each other. And might make us be reaching for each other. And how that reaching might be something like joy. A collection of twelve poems that celebrate contemporary basketball stars, including Shaquille O'Neal, Allen Iverson, and Kobe Bryant. In this, his first collection of poems, Etan Thomas defies the stereotype of the a-political athlete. Examines sports poems, showing readers how to find the meaning in a poem and discussing the techniques the poets used to create them. Known for being one of the world's most popular sport, *The Little Basketball Poetry Book* includes unique poems representing basketball topics associated with the lovable game, making it the perfect gift for the basketball lover. Creating a poetry book about basketball can be a unique way of exploring the game. Poetry can give a fresh perspective and bring an imaginative approach to understanding and appreciating the game of basketball. Moreover, it can bridge the gap between sports and art and appeal to a larger audience. Overall, a poetry book about basketball can be an appealing and creative way to engage with the game that so many people love. A middle-grade novel in verse follows the experiences of twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan, who struggle with challenges on and off the court while their father ignores his declining health. 20,000 first printing. Poetry in Motion is an inspirational, insightful and in-depth collection of short poems that will be enjoyed by everyone, including: athletes, coaches and fans. The book offers a unique and creative look into the world of sports. The reader will get a glimpse into the preparation and mechanics of athletes and competition. As his beloved affair with the game of basketball, ingrained in him as a young boy growing up in the gritty Brownsville section of Brooklyn, grew into a life-long journey around the world, Herb Turetzky suddenly found himself returning to his roots, at the newly-opened Barclays Center, just ten subway stops on the IRT New Lots line from his boyhood home. With the Brooklyn Nets' new home in his home borough, a short five-minute walk from his alma mater, Long Island University, and a thirty minute drive from his

Bayside, Queens home, his almost fifty year Nets' career was rejuvenated, enabling Herb to envision continuing his amazing career while, at the same time, finding his memory of so many greats of the game rekindled. This lifetime fascination, coupled with his long-standing relationships with close boyhood friends and even closer family members, including the recent birth of his first grandchild, have enabled Herb to put together this autobiographical collection of original poetry, a strongly suggested read for followers of basketball, Brooklyn, the historic Brownsville and those with a hearty admiration of family ties. With sweet and simple rhymes, these poems celebrate a range of sports. From baseball and basketball, to karate and swimming, there's something for everyone! I've got my ball I've got my glove I'm ready for the game I love Baseball, basketball, karate, gymnastics, lacrosse, cycling, hockey, soccer, figure skating, tennis, football, and swimming—sports are so much fun to play together. Young and adorable art adds extra appeal to Home Run, Touchdown, Basket, Goal!, a poetry collection for the very youngest of athletes. A collection of twelve poems that celebrate contemporary basketball stars, including Shaquille O'Neal, Allen Iverson, and Kobe Bryant. A collection of poems by American authors about sports. The power, strength, and determination of the game of basketball are captured in striking photographs and sizzling stories, poems, and personal reflections. From frustration to humor, joy, and triumph, this streetwise look at a favorite American pastime conveys all the passion and excitement of the sport. "All-star-caliber poems inspired by all-star NBA players." --Kirkus Reviews What's your game? Can you fly like Blake Griffin? Are you a lightning-fast force of nature like Russell Westbrook? Or are you a chameleon on the court, racking up nicknames like Steph Curry? From James Harden with his shimmy-shake-spin to "Lord of the Leap, Sir Alley of the Oop" LeBron James, here are a dozen profiles honoring the superb talents and skills of some of the best players in NBA basketball. With bold, graphic photographs and fun, accessible poems infused with his indomitable wordplay, Charles R. Smith Jr. captures the agility and finesse that each of these professionals brings to the game. Poem notes about each featured player offer further inspiration at the end. A collection of poems that celebrate contemporary NBA basketball stars, including Anthony Davis, Giannis Antetokounmpo, James Harden, Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, LeBron James and Luka Dončić. A collection of twelve poems that celebrate contemporary women basketball stars, including Yolanda Griffith, Chamique Holdscraw, and Natalie Williams. This study analyzes contemporary American sports poetry, demonstrating that poems about sports express common attitudes and showing what the respective sports' poems say about American culture of the last fifty years. While placing particular emphasis on the hero in American sports poetry, the study proves that a considerable body of sports poetry exists in American culture and that it is worthy of serious analysis. The study opens with the analysis done so far on sports poetry, articulates methods of approach, and gives a brief history of sports poetry, beginning with victory chants around the tribal campfire. From Thayer's "Casey at the Bat" to Gibb's "Listening to the Ballgame," the body of the work is organized thematically by sport: baseball, football, basketball, women's sports, and minor sports such as golf, racquet sports, and boxing. The study concludes with a chapter on poems about fans and spectators and a summary of the study's arguments. Each section gives detailed readings of many poems. This book invites the reader to jump into a selection of poems about sports written by people from different places and times. It gives the reader the keys needed to unlock poems. It equips the reader to explore the meanings that a poem has, and it explains the techniques poets use to create their effects. If baseball is the sport of nostalgic prose, basketball's movement, myths, and culture are truly at home in verse. In this extraordinary collection of essays, poets meditate on what basketball means to them: how it has changed their perspective on the craft of poetry; how it informs their sense of language, the body, and human connectedness; how their love of the sport made a difference in the creation of their poems and in the lives they live beyond the margins. Walt Whitman saw the origins of poetry as communal, oral myth making. The same could be said of basketball, which is the beating heart of so many neighborhoods and communities in this country and around the world. On the court and on the page, this "poetry in motion" can be a force of change and inspiration, leaving devoted fans wonderstruck. This inspiring poem encourages children to view life with the same determination and passion that Michael Jordan displays in how he plays basketball. By listening to their inner voice and looking to those who love and support them, children can find their own way to fly. Distinguished poet Eloise Greenfield and celebrated artist Jan Spivey Gilchrist honor the beauty of the human spirit and offer a timeless message that will resonate with readers young and old. "Introduces basic

poetry forms and terms through the use of original sports-themed poems"-- Exhilarating, all-new, kid-friendly rhymes capture the range of emotions, from winning to losing to the sheer joy of participating, that children experience as they discover the games of their choice. Jack Prelutsky, a virtuoso at making poetry fun for the elementary school crowd, includes in this inspired collection poems about baseball, soccer, football, skating, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, karate, and more. His signature lighthearted humor in verse that trips off the tongue is coupled here with the 2006 Caldecott Medal winner Chris Raschka's lickety-split, stylized (and stylish) watercolors. Every page is a blaze of color and motion. Whether Good Sports will create good sports remains to be seen, but it will prove to young boys (and girls) that reading poetry can be fun. A collection of poetic meditations by the National Book Critics Circle Award-finalist author of *Leaving Saturn* evaluates the solemn richness of everyday lives, from a grandfather who gardens in a tenement backyard to a teacher who renames her black students after French painters. *I Hope I Don't Strike Out* is the first major anthology of funny poems about sports. It was designed to motivate sports-loving boys and girls to read by focusing on the funny side of sports. It covers all major sports in which kids participate, including baseball, football, basketball, soccer, swimming, skiing, running, karate, golf, volleyball, and dodgeball. Kids will love poems that serve up "the inside scoop" on how catchers make batters take their eyes off the ball, how nervous batters hit fastballs they can't even see, blood-curdling cheers that cause opponents to run home to their mommies, what to expect your first day at karate school, what not to pack for a ski trip, and how to score the winning goal in a kindergarten soccer game. In all, 22 of the funniest sports poems ever published by Lansky and his all-star team of Giggly Poets are sure to have kids laughing while they sit on the bench, waiting for a starter to foul out. iParenting Media Awards 2008 Excellent Product Winner: Poetry USABookNews.com 2008 FINALIST: Poetry: Anthologies Teachers' Choice Awards (TCA) 2009 Teachers' Choice Awards for the Family: Children's Books WINNER in Learning Magazine Teachers' Choice Awards for the Family: Children's Books This versatile volume combines examples of poetry from historical and contemporary masters with high school writing. Each chapter contains poems for reading aloud, poems for discussion, models for writing exercises, samples of student poems, and a bibliography for extended reading. Many teachers use *Reading and Writing Poetry with Teenagers* across disciplines. Writing exercises include: *Animals as Symbols* *Family Portraits in Words* *Of War and Peace* *Writing Song Lyrics as an Expression of Social Protest* All the best fiction and poetry on basketball. In Smith's third volume in an award-winning homage to street-court basketball, 12 poems are delivered in short, quick lines that twist and streak and dribble their way downcourt, finally slam dunking their verses with amazing dexterity. Full-color photos. A collection of poetry about the sport of basketball. Carroll, a diarist and rock performer, is best known for his coming-of-age memoir *The Basketball Diaries*, which became an instant classic when it was first published in 1978 and then a national bestseller when a film version of the book was released in 1995. Carroll initially made his reputation as a poet, and has won acclaim and comparisons to everyone from Rimbaud to Frank O'Hara for his delicate yet hallucinatory imagery. This volume of poetry collects selections from Jim Carroll's *Living at the Movies*, which was published in 1973 when he was twenty-two, and *The Book of Nods*, released in 1986. *Fear of Dreaming* also includes pieces previously unpublished in book form, including "Curtis's Charm," a vignette set in New York City's Central Park about a man convinced he is a victim of black magic, and poetic tributes to Robert Mapplethorpe and Ted Berrigan. "His poems' urgent, obsessive metaphors pose tensely against their cool, streetwise surface voice, charging them with an electricity that's at once disturbing, sexual, religious, and psychological."—Tom Clark, *San Francisco Chronicle Book Review* Tells the story of a high school basketball team's season through a series of poems reflecting the feelings of students, their families, teachers, and coaches. "If Muhammad Ali and Jim Brown were the athletes without fear back in their day, then Etan Thomas is this generation's athlete with a moral conscience and a voice, a voice he has the courage to use, boldly." Kevin Powell

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- [Hoop Kings](#)
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- [Sports Poems](#)
- [Pucks Clubs And Baseball Gloves](#)
- [Book Of Memories](#)
- [Hoop Kings 2 New Royalty](#)
- [Home Run Touchdown Basket Goal](#)
- [Good Sports](#)
- [Short Takes](#)
- [Sport Poems](#)
- [Full Court](#)
- [Crazy About Basketball](#)
- [Be Holding](#)
- [Motion](#)
- [Poetry In Motion](#)
- [Hoop Kings](#)
- [Fear Of Dreaming](#)
- [Reading And Writing Poetry With Teenagers](#)
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- [Rimshots](#)
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- [101 Sports Poems Vol 3 Golf Tennis Bowling Sky Diver Equestrian](#)
- [What Comes Down To Us](#)
- [For The Love Of The Game](#)
- [101 Sports Poems Vol 1 Baseball](#)
- [The Crossover](#)
- [I Hope I Dont Strike Out](#)
- [101 Sports Poems Vol 5 Inspirational EPub](#)
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- [The Little Basketball Poetry Book](#)