**Never So Green** by Tim Johnston (2002) Fiction

In Iowa in the 1970s, twelve-year-old Tex overcomes his self-consciousness about his deformed right hand to take baseball lessons from his stepfather and his tomboy stepsister, who harbors a dark secret.

FICTION JOHNSTON

**The Goatnappers** by Rosa Jordan (2007) Fiction

Justin's place as the first high school freshman in twenty years to make the varsity baseball team is at risk when his math grade plummets while he is trying to cope with the abuse of a young billy goat he sold and a visit from his estranged father to Lost Goat Lane.

JUVENILE FICTION JORDAN

**The Truth About Twelve** by Theresa Martin Golding (2004) Fiction

Tremendously burdened by a secret guilt, twelve-year-old Lindy uses her skill at baseball to help her cope with a new school, scornful classmates, and complicated family problems.

JUVENILE FICTION GOLDING

**Chief Sunrise, John McGraw, and Me** by Timothy Tocher (2004) Fiction

In 1919, fifteen-year-old Hank escapes an abusive father and goes looking for a chance to become a baseball player, accompanied by a man who calls himself Chief Sunrise and claims to be a full-blooded Seminole.

JUVENILE FICTION TOCHER

**I Love Him to Pieces: Or My Date is Dead Weight or He Only Loves Me for My Brains** by Evonne Tsang (2011) Fiction

St. Petersburg High school juniors Dicey Bell, a baseball star, and Jack Chen, who loves science and role-playing games, discover a mutual attraction when paired for a project, but on their first date, a zombie-producing fungus sends them on the run.

YOUNG ADULT 741.5973 M990t v. 1

**Mexican White Boy** by Matt de la Pena (2008) Fiction

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.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION PENA
Roy Morelli Steps Up to the Plate by Thatcher Heldring (2010) Fiction
When eighth-grader Roy Morelli’s divorced parents find out he is failing history, they ban him from playing on his beloved all-star baseball team, and, even worse, he winds up being tutored by his father’s new girlfriend.

JUVENILE FICTION HELDRING

Gold Dust by Chris Lynch (2000) Fiction
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.

JUVENILE FICTION LYNCH

My Brother’s Keeper by Patricia McCormick (2005) Fiction
Thirteen-year-old Toby, a prematurely gray-haired Pittsburgh Pirates fan and baseball card collector, tries to cope with his brother’s drug use, his father’s absence, and his mother dating Stanley the Food King.

JUVENILE FICTION MCCORMICK

Ethan Feld, the worst baseball player in the history of the game, finds himself recruited by a 100-year-old scout to help a band of fairies triumph over an ancient enemy.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION CHABON FANTASY

Shakespeare Makes the Playoffs by Ronald Koertge (2010) Fiction
Fourteen-year-old Kevin Boland, poet and first baseman, is torn between his cute girlfriend Mira and Amy, who is funny, plays Chopin on the piano, and is also a poet.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION KOERTGE

Beanball by Gene Fehler (2008) Fiction
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.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION FEHLER

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.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION SMITH
How All This Started by Pete Fromm (2000) Fiction
Abilene and Austin, a brother and sister feeling stultified by the small-town Texan life imposed on them by their parents, dream of escape, with Abilene becoming desperately and dangerously obsessed with helping her brother become a major league pitcher.

FICTION FROMM

My Thirteenth Season by Kristi Roberts (2005) Fiction
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.

JUVENILE FICTION ROBERTS

When thirteen-year-old Matt’s older brother Tom moves to a different hospital to receive a “treatment of last resort” for his cancer, Matt tries to adjust to a new home and school, a new baseball team, and his feelings about his brother.

JUVENILE FICTION ZINNEN

7 Days at the Hot Corner by Terry Trueman (2007) Fiction
Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION TRUEMAN

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

YOUNG ADULT FICTION TURNER

Sophomore Colt Trammel loves baseball and his girlfriend Grace, but he hates the rest of high school and maintains a tough facade to hide his feelings of inferiority.

E-BOOK

About the B’nai Bagels by E.L. Konigsburg (1973) Fiction
Mark Setzer tells about his troubles in general and in particular his misfortunes on the little league team managed by his mother and coached by his brother.

JUVENILE FICTION KONIGSBURG
Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, it helps in other aspects of her life, as well.

JUVENILE FICTION COCHRANE

**Change Up: Mystery at the World Series** by John Feinstein (2009) Fiction
While interviewing the new pitcher while covering the World Series, teen reporters Stevie and Susan's interest is piqued by the contradictory answers given and so decide to delve deeper into the story to get to the truth in this exciting sports mystery for middle readers.

JUVENILE FICTION FEINSTEIN MYSTERY

**Shoeless Joe** by W.P. Kinsella (1989) Fiction
Ray Kinsella's fanatic love of baseball drives him to build a baseball stadium in his corn field and kidnap the author, J.D. Salinger, and bring him to a baseball game.

FICTION KINSELLA

Andy and Glory, two fifteen-year-olds from Ocean Beach, California, pursue their respective dreams of becoming a famous musician and a professional softball player.

JUVENILE FICTION RITTER

The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.

JUVENILE FICTION RITTER

**Heat** by Mike Lupica (2006) Fiction
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.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION LUPICA

**I Never Had it Made** by Jackie Robinson (1972) Nonfiction
In relating his life, Robinson reveals the struggles of a black athlete in the white-dominated world of American sports.

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