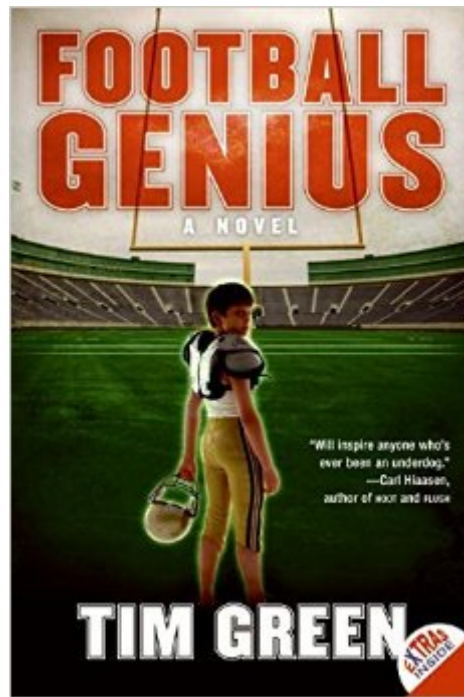


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Football Genius



Synopsis

Bestselling author and former NFL player Tim Green scores a touchdown with this exhilarating novel, his first for young readers. *Football Genius* is an action-packed adventure with gripping suspense, a hero you can really root for, and an insider's look at the world of professional football. Perfect for fans of Mike Lupica. An ordinary boy with an extraordinary talent, Troy White can predict any football play before it happens. And when his single mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons, Troy knows it's his big chance to help them out of their slump and finally prove his football genius. But unless Troy can convince star linebacker Seth Halloway that he's telling the truth, the Falcons' championship and Troy's mom's job are in serious jeopardy.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 800 (What's this?)

Series: Football Genius (Book 1)

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (April 22, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061122734

ISBN-13: 978-0061122736

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (120 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #15,801 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in [Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Football](#) #74 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills](#) #109 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Troy White may seem like any ordinary 12-year-old. He listens to his mom, doesn't steal or sneak out (well, maybe just once) and he's a pretty good athlete. Troy and his mother have each other to survive; they aren't rich or poor but are happy together. But the one thing that separates Troy from every other 12-year-old is his ability to predict what could happen next. He can't predict what he might get on his next exam at school or what will happen to him in the next ten years, though.

Instead, Troy can predict football plays before they even happen. Sounds cool, right? But what good is it if Troy can hardly use this gift? Then Troy's mom gets a job with his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, who aren't doing so well and have been basically losing all of the time. This seems like the perfect chance for Troy to help them out, and maybe they could finally win a game. But would the Falcons jump at the chance and actually believe that a young boy can predict plays, or would they just look at Troy as some crazy fan? With the help of Tate and Nathan, Troy's best friends, Troy might actually pull this off and maybe even learn a little more about his talents, other than his supernatural one. FOOTBALL GENIUS is a story that both football lovers and non-football fans will enjoy along with any person of any age. Tim Green uses cinematic descriptions that let readers feel that they are experiencing and present at the actual games. As a person who is not a big fan of the sport, I thoroughly enjoyed this novel. Reviewed by: Randstostipher "tallnankyrn" Nguyen

Some children's novels are so good and multilayered that adults can enjoy them as literature. "Football Genius" isn't one of those. It's predictable, unrealistic and has a simple plot. BUT... What "Football Genius" is, however is a very good book for elementary kids. There isn't a lot of depth here, no 'grappling with timely issues', no huge revelation or coming of age. And that's okay! "Football Genius" is an easy-to-understand, moral, fairly exciting (on a youth level) novel for children. When I taught school, I was always excited to find a new "chapter book" appropriate for the classroom. This would be one I heartily recommend. There is no cursing, no one in danger, nothing dealing with sexuality or other areas that might concern parents. There are lessons for its readers to learn. Lessons about telling the truth, stealing and loyalty--not couched in symbolism, but spoken directly. The crux of Green's novel is a boy's ability to "read" football plays, almost as an extraordinary "gift" (Troy, the hero of the book, describes it "like ESP!"). Boys, particularly, in elementary would enjoy the football aspects of the book. No, "Football Genius" isn't great literature and it's not on my 'favorite YA novel list'...but it's a great book for boys and girls 3rd grade and up.

I now have a trifecta of great novels for reluctant boy readers (ages 12-14)! Football genius is a predictable story filled with interesting football trivia guaranteed to hold the interest of young football players dreaming of an NFL career. Matched with Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie (Jordan Sonnenblick) and Tangerine (Edward Bloor) and you will have the boys reading nonstop. Girls will love the books because of the characters and friendships. Boys will relate to the ordinary protagonists striving to be special.

Football Genius by Tim Green follows Troy White as he realizes a dream. Troy lives with his mom, has two good friends and loves football. But he hardly ever gets to play because he's second string quarterback and the first string quarterback's father is the coach. So Troy sits on the sidelines. But he has a gift of being able to predict what the other teams' next play will be. There's a turn of events when Troy's mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons football team. Will Troy get a chance to help them turn around their losing season? I enjoyed this book. It was my first sports related read in a long time. I did find it a bit hard to follow some of the technical football terms, but it was a good read anyway. It gives you what you need to know to get an idea about what's happening during the game scenes. I'm familiar with Atlanta and the Falcons, so it made for an entertaining read to hear about places I knew. While using a real football team made it realistic, it also dates the book. I admit that I only recognized a handful of players names, many of which are now retired from the NFL. Troy's character is realistic and easy to relate to. Like any other 12-year-old kid he has dreams, good friends and minor problems at school with bullies. He sometimes makes poor decisions but he owns up to them. I thought this was a good lesson because although he gets in trouble, it's not as bad as if he chose to lie. Truth is an important theme throughout. The suspense the author creates is great. I kept waiting for things to happen whether good or bad. It kept the momentum going and me reading, waiting for the next obstacle to be overcome. I recommend this for middle grade readers whether you like football or not, whether you're male or female. www.cheresevinescharmingwords.wordpress.com

This book seems well-targeted at 10-14 year old boys; though I can think of some girls that would like it as well. The writing style is easy to follow and a younger reader could read it but it would help if they had a basic understanding of football. Some good moral lessons mixed with an entertaining storyline make for a good read. As a parent, I would recommend it for my 12 year old son.

I bought this book for my 7th grader. They have a mandatory number of pages they must read for school. Finding books that interest my son isn't easy. He loved the Harry Potter books but finished those up a few years back. Since he is a football player...He told me "It was really good."

Since these are gifts for my grand son, naturally I scanned them. He is a prolific reader and has interest in football, fishing and hunting as well as being in the Cub Scouts. He would probably give you those last stars.

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