



Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip

By Jordan Sonnenblick

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Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip By Jordan Sonnenblick

There's nothing All Star pitcher Peter Friedman loves more than baseball. He breathes it, dreams it, and works his tail off to be great. Most kids are nervous about starting high school, but when you're the star athlete, girls, popularity, and all-around stud status are sure to follow.

Then a pitching accident over the summer ruins Pete's arm. If he can't play baseball in high school, what is he supposed to do? If he isn't the star pitcher, then who is he? To make matters more complicated, there's something going on with Pete's grampa -- he's acting weird and keeps forgetting important things.

The only person Pete can confide in is Angelika, the amazingly cute girl in his photography class who might like Pete as much as he likes her . . . Only, Angie doesn't know if she can date someone who can't be honest with himself, or with the people he's closest to.

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Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip By Jordan Sonnenblick Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

Praise for *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie* :

"A brave book . . . Jordan Sonnenblick carries it off with such charm and elan, you forget for a moment your heart is breaking." --Frank McCourt, author of *Angela's Ashes*

* "Sonnenblick shows that even in the midst of tragedy, life goes on, love can flower, and the one thing you can always change is yourself." --*Booklist*, starred review

"The reader falls in love with the brothers, laughing and crying by turns and rooting for both of them until it almost hurts." --*Kirkus Reviews*

Praise for *After Ever After* :

* "As hilarious as it is tragic, and as honest as it is hopeful, don't confuse this book with inspirational reading. It's irresistible reading." --*Booklist*, starred review

* "Sonnenblick's intimate first-person tale of survival . . . will leave an emotional, uplifting imprint." --*School Library Journal*, starred review

"Jordan Sonnenblick continues Jeffrey's story in his signature style using an authentic teenage voice and laugh-out-loud humor." --*TeensReadToo.com*

Praise for *Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip*:

"Jordan Sonnenblick scores a home run with *Curveball* as he continues what he does best: getting to the core of issues that resonate with teens in a style that's direct and witty." --*Book Page*

* "Sonnenblick again shows an adept ability to tackle big-deal life issues, treat them seriously and believably, and filter them into a high-spirited, even fun story." --*Booklist*, starred review

* "The novel is populated with kind, vulnerable characters who care about each other, and the thoroughly enjoyable mix of sports, art, family drama, and budding romance will have readers invested in Peter's struggles to accept his new world..." --*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

Praise for *Notes from the Midnight Driver*:

* "[A] funny, bittersweet tour de force." --*Booklist*, starred review

* "Readers [will be] nodding with recognition, sighing in sympathy, and gasping with laughter--often on the same page." --*The Horn Book*, starred review

* "Sonnenblick revisits several key themes from his debut novel, *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie*, to even greater effect here." --*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

Praise for *Zen and the Art of Faking It*:

* “Wildly funny.” -- *Kliatt*, starred review

“This light-hearted situation comedy is peppered with genuine Zen insight.” --*Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*

“Hilarious and heart-wrenching.” --*Kirkus Reviews*

“The writing is fresh, the characters appealing, and it looks like the author has another hit.” --*Oakland Tribune*

About the Author

Jordan Sonnenblick is the author of the acclaimed *Drums, Girls,& Dangerous Pie*, *Notes from the Midnight Driver*, *Zen and the Art of Faking it* and the sequel to *Drums* called *After Ever After*. He lives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with his wife and two children.

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From *Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip*

The next several photos are taken all in a row, click-click-click. Each is zoomed in more tightly than the one before it. The pitcher is in his windup, one arm cocked behind his head, his glove hand swinging down, across his body, toward the catcher. Then the throwing arm is whipping its way forward in stop-time as his compact body is launched forward by the thrust of his back leg against the pitching rubber. There's a shot that freezes the action just as the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. His arm is coming straight down, and his entire body is tumbling forward. If you look past all of the moving limbs, you might be able to tell that something has gone wrong. The pitcher's face is now stretched in a grimace of agony.

In the next shot, the pitcher has fallen halfway out of the frame so that you can only see his head, his shoulders, a blur of infield, outfield, the blue sky. The photographer adjusts in a split second, swinging the camera downward just enough to center his subject in the frame one more time. Now the pitcher has tumbled to his knees, and his glove hand is pressed against the elbow of his throwing arm. Click. There's one more photo, and this one is blurred, as though the photographer is moving as the shutter opens: the boy falling forward. You can tell his face is going to hit the dirt at the foot of the pitcher's mound. You can tell it's probably going to hurt.

The photographer is my grandfather.

The pitcher is me.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Luther Roberts:

Now a day people that Living in the era wherever everything reachable by interact with the internet and the

resources inside can be true or not require people to be aware of each data they get. How many people to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Looking at a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specially this Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip book because book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

Thomas Llanos:

The event that you get from Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip may be the more deep you looking the information that hide into the words the more you get serious about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to understand but Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip giving you excitement feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by simply anyone who read that because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having that Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip instantly.

Sheila Cyr:

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Meredith Bailey:

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