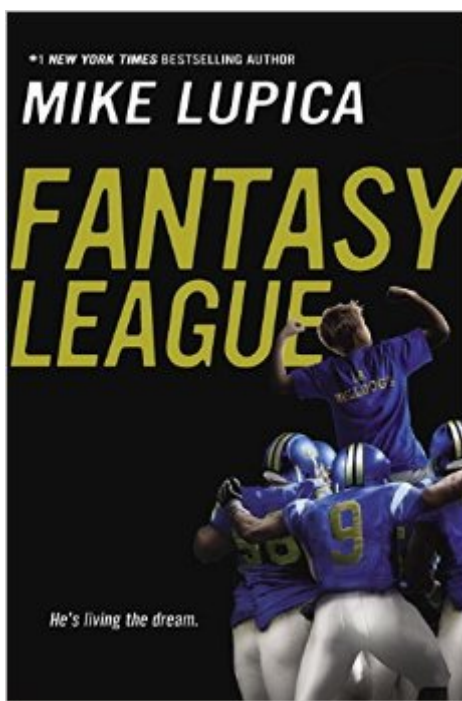


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# Fantasy League



## Synopsis

From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of HEAT, TRAVEL TEAM and MILLION-DOLLAR THROW comes a story of every football kid's dream come true. A 12-year-old Charlie is a fantasy football guru. He may be just a bench warmer for his school's football team, but when it comes to knowing and loving the game, he's first-string. He even becomes a celebrity when his podcast gets noticed by a sports radio host, who plays Charlie's fantasy picks for all of Los Angeles to hear. Soon Charlie befriends the elderly owner of the L.A. Bulldogs -- a fictional NFL team -- and convinces him to take a chance on an aging quarterback. After that, watch out . . . it's press conferences and national fame as Charlie becomes a media curiosity and source of conflict for the Bulldogs general manager, whose job Charlie seems to have taken. It's all a bit much for a kid just trying to stay on top of his grades and maintain his friendship with his verbal sparring partner, Anna. Like the best Disney film in book form, like Moneyball for kids, Fantasy League is every football kid's dream scenario. Lupica is the greatest sports writer for middle school readers. VOYA

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0930 (What's this?)

Paperback: 320 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (46 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #33,620 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Football #188 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Once more, it's kids on a roll to out-think the adults, but with several storylines at once. A new NFL football team has landed in Los Angeles. and Charlie, our hero, figures that he can do a better job

putting together a winning team than the adults who've muffed the first two seasons. (It doesn't hurt that his friend-who's-a-girl's grandfather owns the team!) At the same time, he's in a nail-biting Fantasy League competition showdown. And let's not forget that he's on a youth football team of his own, vying for the championship! You never know what's going to happen next. Perfect for the 10-to-14-year-old audience and those who remember what it was like.

In this book, *Fantasy League*, there is Action, Emotion, and Intelligence like you wouldn't, or couldn't imagine. This book is about a boy named Charlie Gaines who only has a mom to be his care taker and friend, until Anna Warren and Joe Warren. In this amazing and thrilling book, Anna and Charlie are best friends living a normal school life, except the fact that Anna's family owns the made up NFL team, the L.A Bulldogs. And Anna's Gramps, or Joe Warren, owns it all. Plus, if it isn't relevant, Charlie is the Fantasy King, and when the two paths of Joe Warren and Charlie cross, it is a true friendship at first sight. All Charlie and Mr. Warren do is talk football, when Charlie suggests a player to Mr. Warren, and Joe actually takes the suggestion and Charlie becomes famous in sports for helping the Bulldogs and giving them some wins. This cycle continues until something terrible happens to Joe Warren, and that is the emotional part. This Mike Lupica book is one of my favorites because it is not told by Charlie or anyone, it is told by an amazing point, telling you only what Charlie is thinking, but not anyone else. I recommend this book to people that love a good climax late in the story and love reading about great friendships. And football, of course.

**SUMMARY-** Seventh-grader Charlie Gaines was an everyday kid who loved football. Charlie also happened to be a whiz at fantasy football. Charlie's best friend, Anna happens to be the granddaughter of the owner of a local NFL Football team (a team that isn't doing really well and is pretty much a laughing-stock). Charlie makes a draft suggestion to Anna's granddad and Charlie is surprised when her granddad takes him seriously. Soon, the football team starts doing better with Charlie's suggestions but Charlie isn't very comfortable with his new-found fame after the media gets wind of what's been going on. As Charlie learns to cope with the good (and the bad!) of being locally famous, he soon learns things don't always go the way you plan. Now Charlie is being targeted by the media and it also doesn't help that his best friend is getting slightly peeved with him. | **WHAT I THOUGHT-** I will be the first to admit, I am not a huge football fan (give me ice hockey and baseball!) and I wasn't real excited about reviewing this book. After reading the book, I will admit Mr. Lupica has written a football story that I thoroughly enjoyed. I hung on every word, the story was that good. The book

had a ton of football facts and strategies but I really enjoyed reading all of it because it was mixed into such a great story line. The book isn't just about football. It is more a story about being true to yourself, and making the most of the moment. It was about making new friends, and having fun with the old ones. It was very realistic and felt like a story that could happen to anyone. All the characters were excellent and each one had their own story behind them. I also liked the fact that Charlie's best friend is a girl, but he doesn't see her in any romantic ways just someone who loves football the same amount that he does. Anna is a great character and it shows that she is as much an expert on football as Charlie. Mr. Lupica has written a wonderful story about so much more than football.\*NOTE\* I got a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

I had to read this for a project, and I hated it. He used periods incorrectly, and hardly used a was. The reason why I think this is so boring is because it never got to the point. It kept going on and on about how The Bulldogs win or lose, and it seems like it's repeating itself. I would not recommend this book to anybody.

This was purchased as a gift for our grandson. I had heard a radio personality talking about it on the radio and I thought this would be perfect for him. He loves sports and reading and has fun creating his own Fantasy Football Team to play along with his dad and uncles and we just knew this couldn't miss. Well, we were right . . . he loved it!!

Charlie and Ann's relationship was fun to watch Their interaction was exciting. Excellent story line by Lupica. I recommend the book to teens and adults. It's that good.

I loved the beginning and middle of this story. It is touching, light, well written and characters well developed. The story was losing my favor as it started tugging at my tearducts. In the end, my first analysis was the correct analysis. It is good!

I have never read a better book than this. It had suspense action sports and a good ending like every book should have

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