

Soar

By Author, Joan Bauer

Reviewed by: Writisha 13

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

www.bethestaryouare.org

Jeremiah Lopper (12) had to get a heart transplant when he was in third grade. Since then, it's been difficult for him to play his favorite sport, baseball, so he switches to a new dream: coaching. When he and his adoptive father Walt move to Hillcrest, Ohio, they find that the town's championship baseball team is caught up in a scandal and the school teams are ready to drop baseball. But with Jeremiah's determination, he and his new friends reveal the truth about the scandal and bring baseball back to the town.

This book was really good. I thought it would be very focused on baseball, but as someone who doesn't really like baseball, that theme didn't take away from the story. I loved the theme of an eagle soaring that comes up throughout the book, and the message of never giving up is beautifully conveyed. I also really love the humor and lightheartedness that you can always count on in Joan Bauer's books. The storyline, conflict, and characters are all very unique, and everything ties in together for a feel-good kind of story.

I recommend this book for ages 10 and up. Steroid and drug use are part of the conflict, but there is nothing vulgar and none of the main characters use or advertise it. This would be a great gift for fans of baseball, but you can borrow it from the library as well.

Recommended Titles:

Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer

Almost Home by Joan Bauer

Lost in the Sun by Lisa Graff

The Girl Who Threw Butterflies by Mick Cochrane

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt