

Anxiety in stories

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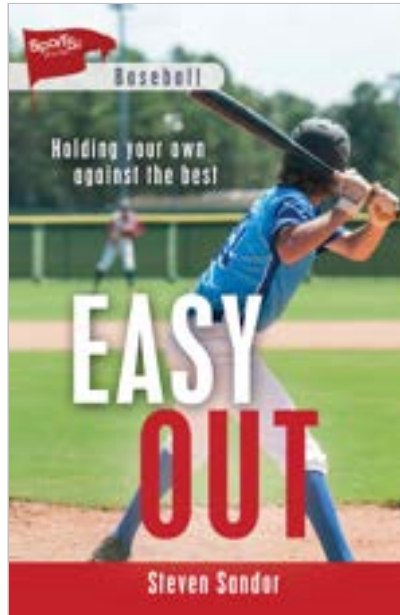
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Middle School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN: 9781459414884

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 12.95CAD,
8.99USD, 8.99USD

Publication Date: 2020-
02-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Easy Out

(by: Steven Sandor)

A young ballplayer in a small prairie town struggles to compete in a high-level league while stepping out of his legendary father's shadow and building stronger bonds with his teammates.

More about the book:

Westlock is an hour north of Edmonton, a prairie town with a long baseball history. But registrations are down, and there are only enough kids in town to fill one team. So Mo Montpetit's team is entered into the Baseball Alberta AA league. All the kids registered will be playing rep ball. No tryouts needed.

Mo's dad is a baseball legend in Westlock. And that's Mo's problem. Mo isn't very good. He can't hit a rep-level fastball. And as the season starts, the strikeouts and errors mount. The Westlock team loses game after game. How can these kids, not ready for rep ball, compete in a league well above their heads? And how can Mo step out of his dad's long shadow?

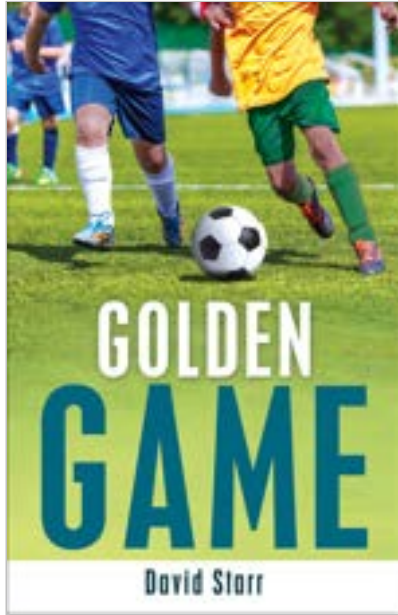


STEVEN SANDOR is an award winning magazine editor, author and sports broadcaster. He edits *Avenue Magazine* in Edmonton. He has written the five Lorimer Sports Stories novels *Called Up*, *Stick Pick*, *Trolled*, *Replay*, and *Playing for Keeps*, and the teen novels *Crack Coach* and *Spin Out*. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

Praise

"... the in-depth game play will attract sports fans."

— School Library Journal



ISBN: 9781459412316

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 12.95CAD,
8.99USD, 8.99USD

Publication Date: 2017-
08-15

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Golden Game

(by: David Starr)

More about the book:

Abbas is a Syrian refugee and a striker on a junior high soccer team of refugee and immigrant players. He is excited when his team is sponsored to play a big tournament, where he can reconnect with a friend from Syria. But a traffic accident triggers Abbas to experience anxiety and flashbacks to the violence in Syria. He finds ways to conquer his flashbacks and anxiety before the big tournament and also helps his whole team deal with the pressure of the competition.

Golden Game is one of four books that offer readers insight into the experiences of refugee youth as they adjust to life in North America.

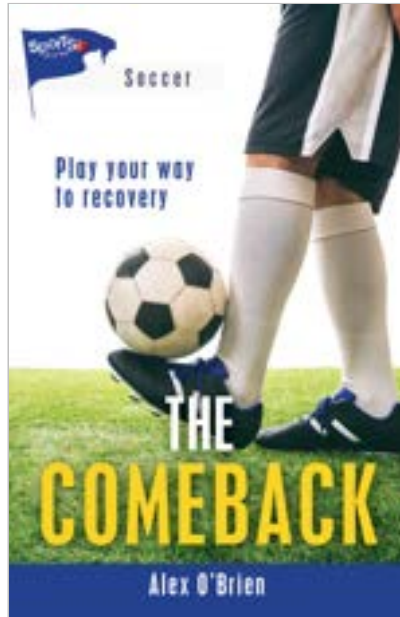


DAVID STARR is an author and high school principal. David has authored multiple books, including Lorimer's Soccer United: Team Refugee titles *Golden Goal* and *Golden Game*. David lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Praise

"This is an upbeat story in spite of the PTSD, and it is treated realistically."

— Margaret Burrie, Reviewer



ISBN: 9781459414808

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 12.95CAD,
8.99USD, 8.99USD

Publication Date: 2020-
02-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

The Comeback

(by: Alex O'Brien)

A fourteen-year-old boy battling depression finds new motivation through soccer—but hiding his struggles from teammates risks derailing both his recovery and his sense of belonging.

More about the book:

On the surface, fourteen-year-old Chris is pretty average, playing hockey and having friends. But underneath it all, Chris is depressed, full of self-blame and negative thoughts. He quits his hockey team, feeling he has let them down, but his doctor suggests that he should pick up another sport. Chris starts playing soccer, and the positive benefits of sport start to take effect: he is motivated and has fewer self-doubts. But former hockey teammate Trent is on the team, and his suspicions about Chris and his emotional state threaten Chris's acceptance and recovery. When Chris and Trent are chosen for a team to play in a summer tournament, Chris decides to keep his depression a secret. But will rumour and stigma about his condition make him relapse and turn his own team against him?



Ontario.

ALEX O'BRIEN left a career in human resources to write novels, scripts and songs. He has been a finalist and winner of several writing competitions. He is the author of the Lorimer sports novel *Playmaker*. Alex lives in Parry Sound,

Praise

"A beautiful story that should be read by kids and those adults who work with kids."

— CM: Canadian Review of Materials

High School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN: 9781459416277

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 14.95CAD,
8.99USD, 8.99USD

Publication Date: 2021-
08-24

Social Emotional Skill:

Relationship Skills

In a Heartbeat

(by: Markus Harwood-Jones)

An LGBTQ+ teen leaves his supportive city life for a small town. At first, he struggles to fit in but eventually finds acceptance, romance, and self-love through a creative community.

More about the book:

Set in a small town, this is not a typical LGBTQ+ romance. Seventeen-year-old Lucien has a supportive family and community in Toronto but wants to make a new start somewhere nobody knows him. Going to stay with his aunt in Vernon presents challenges to fitting in — he is not comfortable with his hockey-watching, hard-partying cousins or the other kids at school. Eventually, Lucien finds a community of creative teens and meets the mysterious Alder. As Lucien finds out who Alder really is, he is able to find what is worthy of love in himself. Focusing on romance and speaking one's truth rather than issues of gender identity, this story is a tender, light-hearted tale of finding love in unexpected places.

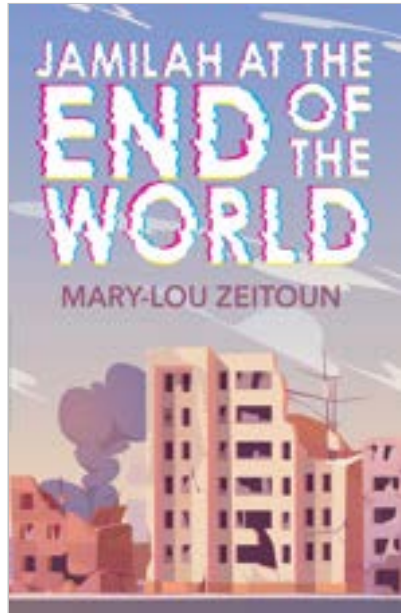


MARKUS HARWOOD-JONES is a writer, visual artist and documentary filmmaker. His feature film, *Mosaic*, tells the story of his journey across Canada and the United States to learn about the trans community. He is author of the Lorimer Real Love teen romances, *Just Julian* and *Romeo for Real*. Markus lives in Toronto, Ontario.

Praise

This brief read with a simplified style intended for reluctant and struggling teen readers, provides much-needed queer representation for this format.

— Kirkus Reviews



ISBN: 9781459416482

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Prices: 14.95CAD,
9.99USD, 9.99USD

Publication Date: 2021-
08-24

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Jamilah at the End of the World

(by: Mary-Lou Zeitoun)

A passionate Toronto teen overwhelmed by climate anxiety clashes with her family, but through protest and activism she finds solidarity—and begins to reconcile her convictions with her family’s expectations.

More about the book:

Set against the backdrop of a brutal summer heatwave, seventeen-year-old Jamilah Monsour makes plans for what she’s certain is the beginning of the climate change catastrophe that will end the world. Luckily, Jamilah knows what has to be done to save her family: transform the back alley garage into a bunker.

When an electricity blackout strikes, Jamilah’s climate change anxiety kicks into high gear and she ends up staying out all night, infuriating her father. Tension at home erupts and Jamilah runs away and joins a climate change protest where she gains some hope for the future. When she returns home, her parents see just how deep Jamilah’s convictions run and the family discusses her attending university to study environmental science, a plan they can all agree on.



MARY-LOU ZEITOUN is a Palestinian-Canadian author, essayist, arts journalist and activist. Her novel *13* was the YA winner of the 2008 New England Book Festival award. She divides her time between Toronto and Ottawa, Ontario.

Praise

"An appealing title for environmentally minded reluctant readers."

— Kirkus Reviews



ISBN: 9781459417175

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Prices: 14.95CAD,
14.99USD, 14.99USD

Publication Date: 2023-
04-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

No Limit on Love

(by: Alison Lister)

A nonbinary teen struggling with climate anxiety finds unexpected connection and love with a gender-fluid boy, as they both explore identity beyond labels and grow together.

More about the book:

Dan has an increasingly common problem: climate anxiety. After a storm devastated parts of Ottawa, it's hard to get climate change out of mind. Dan goes to help clean up at the school, but only one other person turns up: Levi, who is handsome, progressive— and shows a strong interest in Dan.

And what's more, Levi is also pondering gender fluidity and the necessity of applying any labels at all.

Dan falls just as hard for Levi, and it's clear they're going to learn and grow together on this journey as Dan embraces their nonbinary true self.



Alison Lister is an enby (non-binary) author who has been writing realistic and romantic adult LGBTQ+ fiction as Elizabeth Lister, and currently as AE Lister, for over ten years. They live in Ottawa, Ontario with their partner and two children.



ISBN: 9781459419315

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14.99USD, 14.99USD

Publication Date: 2024-
09-11

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Not Not Normal

(by: Peter E. Fenton)

A queer teen battling anxiety and insecurity gains confidence through a new friend and romance, helping him face bullying and embrace his true self.

More about the book:

Jordan and Nathan couldn't be more different, but when order and chaos collide, opposites attract. Jordan is a bit of an oddball at school. He likes rules, routine, old sci-fi novels, and is often the victim of his bully's torment. When new student Nathan joins the school, he wears down Jordan's walls and, with his love, empowers Jordan to stand up for himself.

Nathan's parents are going through divorce, and at a new school in a new city Jordan provides him with the stability he can't find at home. Through their friendship and eventually their romance, Jordan embraces his newfound self-confidence and proclaims his love for Nathan in front of the school. Each is just what the other needs.



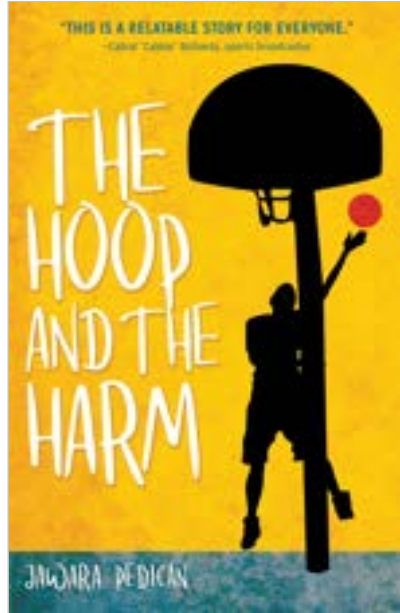
Toronto, Ontario.

PETER E. FENTON writes LGBTQ2S+ romance and mystery novels that are proudly set in Canada, including *The Woodcarver's Model* and the Declan Hunt Mysteries series. He lives in

Praise

"...personable characters and their relatable struggles mean that this romance for reluctant readers should find fans both within and outside its intended audience, making it a good choice for any teens who find it challenging to fit in... An engaging opposites-attract queer romance."

— Kirkus Reviews



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Imprint: Lorimer

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14.99USD, 14.99USD

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04-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

The Hoop and the Harm

(by: Jawara Pedican)

A student athlete has to navigate the pressures of family expectations, manage his mental health, and search for his true passion through the transformative power of basketball.

More about the book:

Udoka Clendon is a first-year university student and a product of basketball systems that have produced professional players.

From very young, he's been pushed relentlessly by his family on a troubling pursuit for an athletic scholarship. He is burdened by expectations and self-doubt. Udoka tries to reignite his passion for the game. Now, he's been given a final opportunity at the city-wide tournament to rediscover his confidence and his sense of purpose—all of which he fears he has lost forever.

With clarity and poetic style, drawing on his own time as an elite sports prospect, Jawara Pedican shows the trials and traumas of becoming fixated on a dream of sports stardom.



JAWARA PEDICAN played on various university varsity basketball teams in Canada. He is a kinesiologist and more recently a medical editor for a life sciences marketing agency in Toronto. He lives in Alliston, ON.

Praise

"A sincere, inspiring look at dealing with and overcoming self-doubt..."

— Kirkus Reviews

2026 Social Emotional Learning Catalogue

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