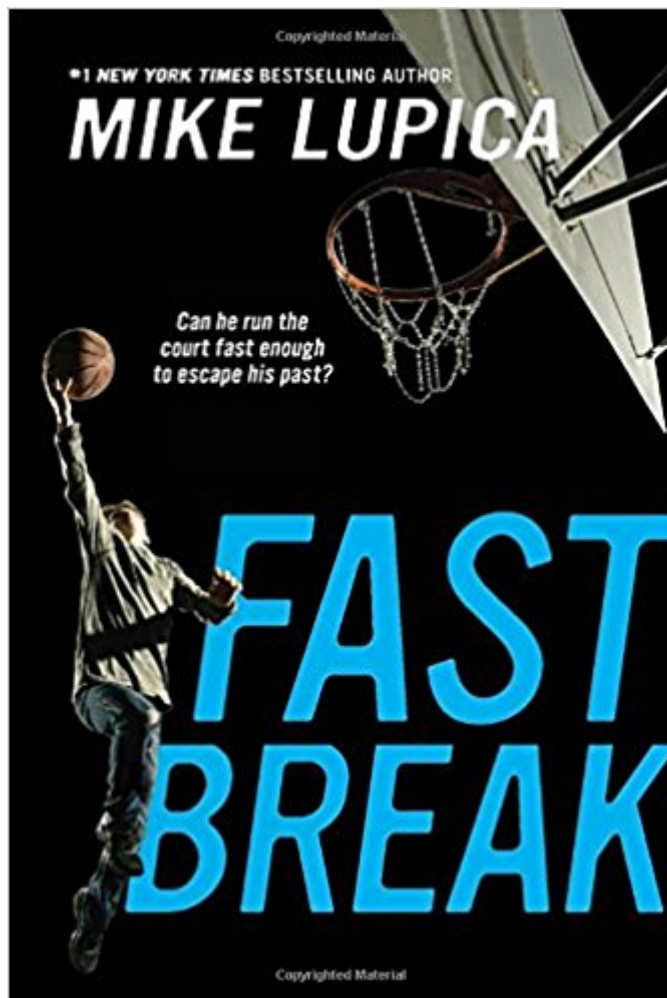




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Fast Break



Synopsis

From the #1 best-selling author of *Heat*, *Travel Team* and *Million-Dollar Throw* comes a feel-good basketball tale reminiscent of *The Blind Side*. Forced to live on his own after his mom dies and her boyfriend abandons him, 12-year-old Jayson does whatever it takes to get by. He will do anything to avoid the foster care system. He manages to get away with his deception until the day he gets caught stealing a new pair of basketball sneakers. Game over. Within a day a social worker places him with a family from the other side of town, the Lawtons. New home, new school, new teammates. Jayson, at first, is combative, testing the Lawtons' patience at every turn. He wants out, yet the Lawtons refuse to take the bait. But not everyone in Jayson's new life is so ready to trust him. It's on Jayson to believe that he deserves a better life than the one he once had. The ultimate prize if he can? A trip to play in the state finals at Cameron Indoor Stadium—home to the Duke Blue Devils and launching pad to his dream of playing bigtime college ball. Getting there will be a journey that reaches far beyond the basketball court. "Eager fans will find this a slam-dunk. A must-purchase." —Booklist "Lupica's announcer-like delivery will have you breathless, on the edge of your seat, cheering." —Florida Times-Union

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 49 customer reviews

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 5 Up-Basketball whiz Jayson, who is white, poverty-stricken, and angry, is placed with a loving, patient, affluent African American couple after his mother dies. Jayson learns to accept his new life as his team approaches the North Carolina middle school championship, an experience that instills valuable lessons about camaraderie, cooperation, and self-confidence. Audio version available from Recorded Books. (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Praise for "Fast Break" "Eager fans will find this a slam-dunk. A must-purchase." "Booklist" Lupica's announcer-like delivery will have you breathless, on the edge of your seat, cheering. "Florida Times-Union" "Fast Break is the perfect middle-grade read for fans of basketball. With so much attention to detail in each game, readers are practically with the characters on the court....Lupica has done it again." "VOYA" "The dynamics here are handled with subtlety and depth" | Lupica delivers solid sports action and character growth. "Kirkus Reviews"

I think that Fast Break by Mike Lupica is a very fascinating book. Jayson the main character is a great teammate, an aggressive player, and has to persevere through hard times. This book is a very suspenseful book and shows how lucky some of us are. This story takes place in North Carolina. He starts off living on his own trying to not get picked up by Child Protective Services but blows his cover. So he gets taken to a nicer part of town with a foster family. Now trying to make the basketball playoffs comes a challenge with his new team. My first reason is that he is a great teammate. One way to show this is, "He could have kept it for an easy bucket but passed instead," pg 88. This shows he is a great teammate because he could have kept it but decided to pass. Another piece of evidence is, "With fists flying through the air Jayson tries an attempt at stopping it," This shows he is a good teammate because he tried to stop a fight to save his friends. And that is two reasons why he is a good teammate. My second reason is that he is an aggressive player. Like on pg 213 it says, "Jayson was trying to keep his voice low even though he was spitting mad," pg 63. This shows he is an aggressive player because he wants to just yell. Also in the story it says, "He was playing mad like always," This shows that he is an aggressive player because he was playing like he has something to prove. And those are my two reasons that he is an aggressive player. And my last reason that it is a fascinating book is that Jayson has to persevere through tough times. In the book it says "With his mom gone, Jayson knew it wouldn't be long before Richie left him too," pg 11. This shows that he

had to persevere even without anyone to take care of him. My second piece of evidence is "Why didn't you tell me they were black?" (his foster parents). This shows that he had to persevere because he got nervous around black people. There are some examples to show how he had to persevere. All in all, we can learn that if you just keep going at it you will eventually get it. I would read Fast Break over and over because it is so unpredictable! I rate this 5 out of 5 stars.

I purchased this book as a Christmas present for my son. He enjoys Mike Lupica tremendously. If your child loves sports, I would highly recommend this product.

If you are a kid in elementary or middle school who loves basketball, then you will love this book too. This book is about a kid named Jason Barnes who lost his mother and stole a pair of shoes from footlocker because he was living all by himself and wanted to still play basketball. He was caught and went into child protection system and began living with foster parents names the Lawtons. His big goal was to make it to the championship game, if you want to know if he makes it, then you will have to read this book and check it out. I rated this book five stars because the author did a great job developing the characters and the plot.

bought for my son he likes this author

He enjoyed it.

Excellence!

as expected

Good book

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