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# Biggie



## Synopsis

Henry "Biggie" Abbott is the son of one of Iowa's most famous athletes. His father was a baseball legend and his step-dad is a close second. At an obese 300+ pounds though, Biggie himself prefers classroom success to sports. As a perfectionist, he doesn't understand why someone would be happy getting two hits in five trips to the plate. "Forty percent, that's an F in any class," he would say. As Biggie's junior year begins, the girl of his dreams, Annabelle Rivers, starts to flirt with him. Hundreds of people have told him to follow in his dad's footsteps and play ball, but Annabelle might be the one to actually convince him to try. What happens when a boy who has spent his life since fourth grade trying to remain invisible is suddenly thrust into the harsh glare of the high school spotlight?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Biggie is a wonderful surprise. I generally lean towards books with more history, romance, and less baseball but I enjoyed this book immensely. I could not put it down and re-read some passages many times. It is not as expected and very different from a lot of YA fiction today. It has real

characters, with normal problems, but told in a way that the reader is enveloped into Biggie's world. Biggie's weight is merely a jumping off point for a universal story of how kind we are to ourselves and others. And the ramifications of how we treat ourselves and others. I cannot wait to read more from this author!

Biggie is an excellent book! I was quickly drawn into the world of Henry "Biggie" Abbott, a testament to the author's skill. I rooted for Biggie, felt embarrassed for him, got frustrated at him, and ultimately found him endearing and redeeming as he gradually gained the courage to take him further than he thought he could ever go. It was interesting that even though the motivations for that courage were shifting/changing, the initial motivation (Annabelle) was just enough to open the proverbial floodgate and start him on his tortuous road of growth and self-acceptance. The pace of the story was just right, so as to not drag on too long with "fillers", or to be too quick as to be unbelievable. Although it dealt with the classic emotions and insecurities of the teen and young adult years, it was a fresh and unique story. I enjoyed many of the clever chapter titles. The book drew me in and I did not want to put it down until I was done, and even then, I found myself thinking about Biggie for days after, as if he were a real person rather than the superb fictional character of Derek Sullivan's great break out novel. LOVED it and cannot say enough good about the layers of the story!

Derek Sullivan's debut novel really hits the mark. He takes the character of Henry "Biggie" Abbott and makes him a believable, modern teenager. It seems like every time I expected this book to go one direction, it went another; Sullivan does not always follow the path you'd expect. That is refreshing in a market where you can figure out every move the book will make within 25 pages. My one hesitation in giving this five stars is an abundance of profanity. I'm not opposed to some in a book, and I know it's (unfortunately) how many teens converse, but I want to put this on my bookshelf at school and encourage kids to read it. I still will do that, but I may be selective in who can handle that. I look forward to more books by Mr. Sullivan!

"Biggie" is a fantastic read! I can't say enough how much I loved the story. Author Derek Sullivan tells a story about a high school boy who's over 300 pounds. The words to describe the character's thoughts and feelings, just blew my mind. It was like I was back in high school again. His words could not be any truer. The inner struggles of being a boy, in high school, born from an legendary baseball player, living in a small town in Iowa, and being socially awkward are all topics that are tackled with eloquent words, punchy dialogue, and scenes that come to life right off the black and

white pages. I'm not a baseball fan, but I felt like I was sitting in the bleachers, cheering for the players, and screaming at the coaches. The only thing that is missing was the smell of freshly roasted peanuts, but do they do that for high school games? I don't know. What I do know is I was mentally with Biggie on that pitcher's mound. I felt my body go through the motions. I counted in my head as I read it on the page. I was the pitcher.

I wasn't sure what to expect when I started reading this book. I like the cover and blurb but I wondered how it that would translate into an entire book. Consider me impressed. This debut novel by Derek E. Sullivan examines what it's like to be Henry Abbot; the BIGGEST kid in your school (and the son of local baseball legend). I finished the book in one sitting and wish there were more to read; that is always a great feeling to have when finishing a book!! particularly liked following Henry's growth over the course of the book as he ponders being healthier and having a healthier mindset. I look forward to adding Biggie to my classroom library and recommend this book to those looking for an enjoyable and engaging read. Note: I recieved this book for free in exchange for an honest review.

Quick, fun read. Brought me back to my high school days. Biggie is about a lonely overweight teenager who decides to join his school's baseball team after pitching a perfect game of Wiffle ball. You'll find yourself cheering for him even though he can be whiny and self-loathing. It's an inspirational baseball story with complex relationships. I'd recommend it to an older teen but it was good reading for this 30-year old mom of three too.

I thought this was an excellent book. I really liked Mr. Sullivan's writing style. Thinking back on my school days I could easily relate to Biggie. There are times you really want to kick him in the ass and there are times you want to cheer him on. Like most teens, Biggie is his own worst enemy. I'm glad he finally got out of his own way.

Biggie is an excellent book. If your teenager doesn't like to read, he or she just might like this book! I am a tutor and I had a very reluctant student read this book and he thoroughly enjoyed it ! I am hoping Derek E. Sullivan will write another book for teenagers very soon.

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