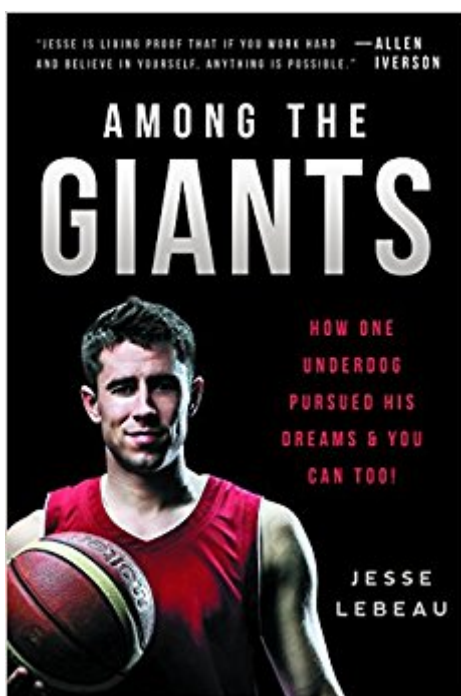


The book was found

# Among The Giants: How One Underdog Pursued His Dreams & You Can Too!



## Synopsis

The sound of the basketball slapping the floor echoed hollowly in the gym, as I began working it playfully with my hands. Planning my next move, I locked eyes with my opponent. I noticed small beads of sweat beginning to form in the furrow between his eyebrows. My heart was pounding, and my nerves tightened in response . . . but slowly a smile formed on my lips. Here I was, 5'8" • Jesse LeBeau, going one on one with basketball superstar Kevin Durant . . . and I was making him sweat! As I started to make my move on him, I briefly wondered, "How did a skinny kid from a small town in Alaska ever get the chance to do this?" Here I was, involved in the filming of the 2012 Warner Brother's basketball movie Thunderstruck, playing against the NBA scoring champion! It shouldn't have happened. I didn't fit the profile and anyone would have told you that. But I did make it, despite the odds. And here is my story . . . Growing up as an undersized white basketball player on a remote island in Alaska, Jesse had nearly every chip stacked against him. Yet despite his size and circumstances, he managed to rise above it all and make it to the big screen in Hollywood. With only the love of the game of basketball and the tenacity to follow a dream driving him, Jesse's persistence has led him to star in national commercials and movies with some of the most recognizable celebrities and professional athletes in the world. More importantly, he found a way to tweak the system and alter his dream and get paid to do what he loves to . . . every day! Be inspired by his story and learn the keys to successfully creating a life that is uniquely yours.

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Familius; First edition (October 7, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1939629322

ISBN-13: 978-1939629326

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #284,651 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Teens >

Biographies > Sports #59 in Books > Teens > Sports & Outdoors #87 in Books > Teens >

Social Issues > Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

"Jesse is living proof that if you work hard and believe in yourself, anything is possible." — Allen Iverson

Jesse LeBeau is an American actor, professional streetball player, author, and motivational speaker. He is also the founder of the celebrity youth program The Fab4 Takeover. He currently lives in Los Angeles.

In today's world there are few good role models for our children, but Jesse Labeau is definitely one I would recommend. As a father I am always on the lookout for good inspiring books, with the right message for my sons to read. In an effort to be a responsible parent I will take the time to read all books myself before offering them to my boys. "Among the Giants" is a very solid and inspiring story about a kid who refused to give up even with the odds of success seemingly stacked against him. It's about old fashioned sticktoitiveness and the ability to overcome challenges even with overwhelming obstacles in the way. I actually found it not only a great book for my boys but also personally inspirational for myself as well. A good reminder to never yield and constantly move forward in life no matter the challenges, which I believe is a good message we all need on occasion. I highly recommend this book to all parents looking for beneficial books for their children to read.

I am so impressed with this book "Among the Giants" and so surprised! Peppered with his own personal story of adversity and success, this motivational read lit a fire in me to take what I am truly passionate about to the next level. As a prior athlete myself, many of us didn't win the genetic lottery that would allow us to play a sport at a professional level. It's certainly refreshing to read what Jesse has done to create his own avenue. At the root of it all was his drive, dedication and persistence to make something of himself and his athletic prowess allowed him to continue on in industry that is exciting and reputable. I would highly recommend this books to anyone regardless if they are an athlete or not, there are many wonderful nuggets of advice to apply in any career.

Can't say enough good about this book. It's inspiring to hear success stories about people who are truly doing what they love and are passionate about. So many motivational books and self help books try to simplify success into one thing or make it sound easy. Jesse speaks the truth and encourages young people to follow what they are passionate about but doesn't gloss over the fact that it takes hard work, commitment, and sacrifice to do what you love. I have, and will continue to

reccomend this book because it's real, inspiring as well as captivating. Can't go wrong with this easy read! Especially for \$15!!!

This book was phenomenal - everything Jesse said made perfect sense. Don't be afraid do what you have to do to make your dreams come true.

great book. incredibly inspiring. a must read for any youngster, athlete or otherwise....parents, take note! this lebeau kid is going places (as long as there are stairs or a stepstool or something...)

This should be required reading for all young people! I have purchased an additional 4 copies to give away. It is a valuable book.

Length:254 pages Rating:4 of 5 stars (very good) Review:Jesse LeBeau did not grow up in an area where basketball was an important part of the culture. As an undersized kid in Alaska, he realized that if he was going to be able to pursue his dreams for success in the sport, he had to work hard and make sacrifices. While he didn't become a star in the NBA, LeBeau has had success with the game by playing charitable games and shooting commercials with professional stars like Allen Iverson and Kevin Durant. He doesn't take his success for granted and wanted to share the message of what it takes to succeed in this book. The format of the book is like a basketball game, divided into four quarters, two overtime periods, the locker room and post-game training. A total of 28 lessons, on everything from the right attitude to setting goals and always giving your best effort, are told in short chapters that are easy to read and follow. LeBeau tells them in a manner that the reader will be able to feel his emotions, which are mostly joy, and will want to apply them to his or her endeavors. There are also plenty of stories of Jesse's interactions with famous people. These are not just with basketball players, but other celebrities such as Heidi Klum and Dr. Dre. Just like with the chapters on which LeBeau is advising the readers of life's lessons, Jesse tells these stories with enthusiasm and joy. Here the reader can feel the little kid in LeBeau as he shares these anecdotes which have valuable lessons as well. While this book is geared for young people, older adults will enjoy it as well. Many of the traits and lessons can be applied in a grown-up world as well. It was fun and entertaining to read as well and there are even some good basketball stories thrown in, especially the charity game that Jesse played with Iverson. Whether the reader wants to get some advice on what to do for a successful future, a parent wants to find out how to talk to his or her children about

it or even just for a fun read, this book will do the trick. I wish to thank Mr. LeBeau and Familius for providing a copy of the book in exchange for an honest review. Did I skim? No. Do I recommend? Absolutely. A great message for teenagers and young adults presented in a way that they will enjoy reading.

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