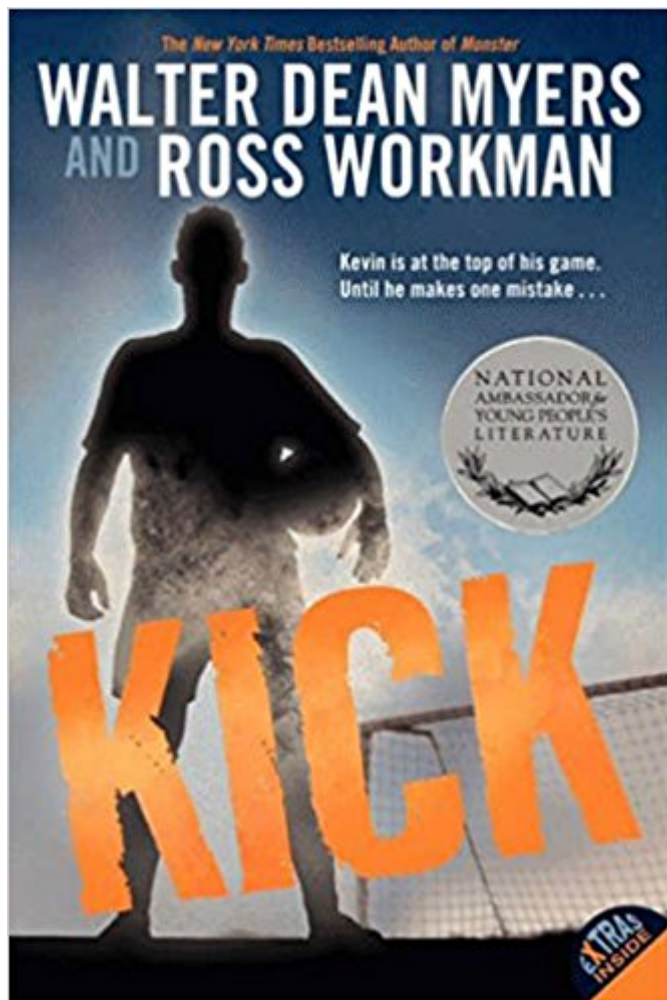




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Kick



Synopsis

For the very first time in his decades-long career writing for teens, acclaimed and beloved author Walter Dean Myers writes with a teen, Ross Workman. Kevin Johnson is a great kid and skilled soccer player. With attitude. Then he ends up in jail. Sergeant Brown is a tough cop and Kevin's mentor. With attitude. If Kevin and Brown can learn to trust each other, they might be able to turn things around. Before it's too late.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 6-9-In an interesting joint effort, Myers teamed with high school student Workman to produce this novel about a soccer player who runs into trouble helping a friend. Veteran police sergeant Jerry Brown is asked to look into the case of a 13-year-old boy who crashed a car belonging to his friend's father. Brown takes a special interest in the case when he is informed that the boy, Kevin Johnson, is the son of an officer who was killed in the line of duty. As Brown delves more deeply, he begins to suspect that the friend's family has something to hide. He also develops a bond with Kevin, who, although angry and troubled, is basically kindhearted and well-intentioned. Workman wrote the chapters narrated by the boy, and Myers wrote those narrated by Brown. This approach works quite well in terms of narrative voice, as Myers's more polished style reflects an adult perspective, while Workman's less-refined prose seems appropriate to his character's outlook and experience. There is some exciting soccer action, and the interaction between Brown and Kevin is heartwarming, yet natural and unforced. While some may feel that the denouement falls a little flat, the novel should have wide appeal to soccer fans, aspiring writers, and boys from difficult family

circumstances who are trying to figure out how to make their way in the world.-Richard Luzer, Fair Haven Union High School, VT (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

On September 3, 2007, acclaimed YA author Myers received a fan e-mail from a young New Jersey teen named Ross Workman. Two hours later, Myers extended a remarkable invitation: "Okay, let's make a story." Amazingly, they did. And here's the result, the story of a 13-year-old boy named Kevin in trouble with the law. Because he is the son of a fallen policeman, the judge in the case asks a veteran police officer, Sergeant Brown, to investigate. Told in alternating chapters by the coauthors, the book features a dramatic subplot about Kevin's soccer team's participation in an important tournament. Workman is a genuine talent, writing short, declarative sentences that move the narrative forward with assurance and a page-turning tempo. Myers, of course, is a master, and it's fascinating to see him writing from the first-person perspective of an adult. The respective voices and characters play off each other as successfully as a winning, high-stakes soccer match. How about another collaboration? Grades 7-12. --Michael Cart

Walter Dean Myers, the first author to receive the YA lit lifetime achievement award, probably understands teens better than most parenting experts. *Kick* also shows his understanding of the workings of the teen brain. The 13 year old protagonist is just trying to help a friend and keep a promise. His good intentions have him headed to court and possibly J.D.H. The voice of Kevin is written by a high school student who became friends with Myers via fan e-mails. Both writers created a sweet story with no bad guys, well intentioned yet flawed adults and lots of great soccer action. I hope Sergeant Brown shows up in future Myers novels mentoring other youths headed down a destructive path. Its short length makes *Kick* a good choice for reluctant readers.

OK READ BUT EVERY INDIVIDUAL HAS TO COME TO THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS DO RESEARCH BEFORE YOU DOWNLOAD TO SEE IF ITS FOR YOU

Read *Monster* by Myers and thought I would give *Kick* a shot. It was a very easy read suitable for youth as young as 8 or 9. A good book to encourage a young boy, something he might actually enjoy reading. I would definitely recommend it to a young male audience. Great gift for nephews or grandsons though it could be enjoyed by just about anyone.

The book was a quick read because it was so interesting I couldn't put it down! It was explained very thoroughly .

It was an ok book. Not my favorite.

I give this book a 5 stars! I picked this because it is very suspenseful I think that this book is amazing

This book has a nice ending and I liked how they combined sports with a little mystery! It is wonderful

This book is great for a teenage boy who loves sports. I have ordered more books from this same author. I liked the book myself.

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