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# Soar



## Synopsis

Newbery Honorâ “winner Joan Bauer’s newest protagonist always sees the positive side of any situationâ ”and readers will cheer him on!Jeremiah is the worldâ™s biggest baseball fan. He really loves baseball and he knows just about everything there is to know about his favorite sport. So when heâ™s told he canâ™t play baseball following an operation on his heart, Jeremiah decides heâ™ll do the next best thing and become a coach.Hillcrest, where Jeremiah and his father Walt have just moved, is a town known for its championship baseball team. But Jeremiah finds the town caught up in a scandal and about ready to give up on baseball. Itâ™s up to Jeremiah and his can-do spirit to get the town â “ and the team â “ back in the game.Full of humor, heart, and baseball lore, Soar is Joan Bauer at her best.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0510 (What’s this?)

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Viking Books for Young Readers (January 5, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0451470346

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Product Dimensions: 5.9 x 1 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #120,002 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Adoption #86 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Moving #159 inÂ Books > Children’s Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Summary: Jeremiah has been through more than his share of difficulties, starting when he was abandoned by his mother at the age of nine months and continuing through a series of heart problems that ultimately resulted in him needing a transplant. Lucky for him, his mother left him in an office building where he was discovered by nerdy but loving Walter, who adopted him and has been by his side ever since. Jeremiah’s greatest love is baseball, but his heart

hasn't gotten healthy enough for him to play. When Walter and Jeremiah move to Hillcrest, Ohio, they look forward to cheering on the town's championship baseball team. Within days of their arrival, though, scandal has swept through the town, shutting down the team. When Jeremiah discovers a few kids at his middle school who still love to play, he gets the idea to become their coach. Step by inching step, the kids work together to build a middle school team and to repair the damage done to Hillcrest. With Jeremiah leading them on, the Hillcrest Eagles prove there's more than one way to have a winning team, and what a person lacks in talent, he can make up for with heart. Pros: "You're weird, but I like you," says one of Jeremiah's teammates, perfectly capturing Jeremiah's voice as he narrates this story. Quirky, humorous, and refusing to be kept down, Jeremiah gives the people of Hillcrest and the readers of *Soar* plenty to cheer about. Cons: Occasionally Jeremiah seems a bit too wise and mature for a sixth-grader.

I really liked this book. It is a sweet story about a boy who is adopted and his father. The two have a "non-traditional family" in that the father finds the baby boy at work, where the boy's mother also worked and left the boy to be found and taken care of. The father and son have a great relationship. Any lover of baseball will love this book! It is set in the Midwest, so it is also a good fit for students in grades 3-5 who are studying the Midwest region of the US. This book also deals with the son's medical challenges, and he uses his challenges to study baseball to be a coach/manager since he cannot play himself. Spoiler alert: at the end of the story, there is a very small part - I think it is only one sentence - about the fiancée not wanting the robot to be in the bedrooms. This was disappointing to me because it seemed to indicate that the fiancée was using the bedroom when she visited. This is tricky because now I can't recommend this title to teachers in religious schools. I have to admit that I was looking for these kinds of things while I read since I do recommend books regularly for teachers in religious schools. So if this minor part of the book bothers you, be aware.

*SOAR* by Joan Bauer tells the powerful story of a heart transplant survivor who becomes an amazing baseball coach. Although Jeremiah isn't allowed to run because of his heart transplant, he hasn't given up his baseball dreams. Instead, he decides to turn his middle school baseball team into champions. Along the way, he connects with a neighbor and brings a town alive. Librarians will find this heart-warming story to be a great addition to the library's realistic fiction collection. Books about sports are always popular with boys, but this title crosses boundaries and is likely to inspire a wide range of readers. The focus on coaching rather than

playing baseball provides a unique perspective. The robotics, steroids, and adoption subplots provide a bonus that will appeal to some youth. Keep in mind that this title also fits well with the growing number of books exploring ways youth are overcoming disabilities. To learn more about the author, go to [...] Published by Viking Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin. ARC courtesy of the publisher.

This book had amazing characters and an inspiring and beautiful plot. The main character was very silly, forgoing, and had a voice, so naturally the tone kept everyone interested. One of the best books I've written

This amazing and inspiring novel takes you on an adventure with Jeremiah moving to Hillcrest Ohio the town of baseball. But after some tragedies, it's up to Jeremiah to get the town in shape.

A very funny and uplifting story about a young man's struggles with a grave heart condition and his passion for the great game of baseball. Great novel for young and old alike.

Love this book. I kept saying, "Wow, this is a good book!" as I was reading it. So much heart, lovable characters, and so much wisdom throughout.

Great book. Some tougher themes re: steroids, death, parents leaving etc. but ultimately about strength, courage, tenacity and heart. Loved this book.

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