



Playing the Field

Janette Rallison

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Thirteen-year old McKay is a talented baseball player, but as equally untalented when it comes to algebra. If he doesn't bring his grade up, his parents threaten to make him quit the team.

His best friend Tony thinks the natural solution is for McKay to befriend Serena, a pretty girl in class, who also happens to get straight A's in algebra. Not only will that get McKay the tutor he desperately needs, but it will give Tony the chance to flirt with Serena's two best friends. Unfortunately, if McKay follows Tony's advice on how to "play the game," he might find himself in an even worse spot than when he was merely failing algebra. With a keen sense of wit, and more self-confidence than he gives himself credit for, McKay will keep readers alternately laughing and groaning as he is dragged kicking and screaming into the subtle (and often not so subtle) world of teen dating.

Playing the Field Details

Date : Published September 1st 2004 by Walker Childrens (first published May 1st 2002)

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Author : Janette Rallison

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From Reader Review Playing the Field for online ebook

Jennifer Andrews says

Cute, funny read. I kept picturing my son in a few years when he becomes more interested in girls. Would recommend this book to younger readers.

Tamera Westhoff says

Fantastic Read

I gave it 5 stars because this book has great detail, and highlights junior high relations right on point. It has amazing humor, and is relatable. This book is probably best for teens and preteens.

Lia says

This was another good 2-hour read for kids. I love Janette Rallison's witty, unexpectedly funny writing. It takes me back to when I was in fifth grade again, reading for nothing but fun. It makes me want to frost a graham cracker, take the book, and sit in a tree reading it all afternoon.

Rachel says

Janette Rallison never fails to make me smile, even when she's writing about 13-year-old 8th graders, I still love her!

Melissa T says

Another funny read. Rallison sets up the most hilarious scenes! The voices of her characters are delightful. One of my favorite lines in this one was when the main character was trying to convince his best friend that they didn't need to go talk to some girls, even though his friend wanted them to start dating them. He told him they didn't need girls to do things together, because "we do things together all the time, like right now we're about to go make fools of ourselves together." I would have enjoyed this one had I been about 12, but it was still SO a delight to read.

Rachel says

Real cute...but waaaaay below my age level lol. Oh the things I read because they are free for my kindle...

Mimi says

As I've come to expect from Janette Rallison, this is a great book with many humorous sections. I believe it to be ideally suited for the middle school age reader. The story follows a young boy as he begins to wonder if there is more to life than baseball, such as girls, and as he is forced to realize that there is more to life than baseball, such as algebra.

Good characters are shown to be good and those with bad morals are shown to be bad, so there is much for younger teenagers to emulate in this tale.

Brianna says

I learned that you can't be someone that your not.

:) thnx janette for all these wonderful books! I hope to read them all!

:) i am your number one biggest fan! and i sent you an e-mail a while ago please answer back thank you!

Shawna says

Score another point for Rallison. This book is cute, funny, and about ordinary people. I liked it.

Marcus G says

This book was very interesting. Since it is about baseball i thought i wouldn't like it or understand it but i realized that you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. Once i read this i felt like i was a side character in the book. i liked the book because it is funny and a lot of juicy drama. I think a person who likes drama and teen books would like this book.

-marcus grant

Jzcotter03 says

This book is a Junior High level read but it's a great story about one boy's lesson in life, love, and baseball. It has a great moral and I would definitely recommend it. This is the last of Rallison's books that I can access through our public library so I feel a little sad to have to say goodbye to this author until she writes something new.

Micky Parise says

Cute book about baseball, crushes at 13 years old, school, money and sibling issues. Only drawback was wish it had more detail about baseball. Nice reading and fun book. Ohh to be young again. lol

Juliana says

Great fun getting inside the head of a teenage boy. Seemed genuine ... especially the cluelessness of the main character.

Sheila Summerhays says

Great pre-teen to teen book about two boys trying to find themselves as they meet girls and play ball. Rallison is insightful and funny.

Jenifer says

Good juvenile fiction. I would let my daughter read this and not worry a bit. I appreciate books that don't focus on the negative, melodramatic side of being an adolescent, but instead have intelligent and self-confident characters. The story line wasn't as "full" a bit on the empty side, but still a good read.
