



Sliding into Home

By Dori Hillestad Butler

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An adolescent girl learns that realizing a dream requires a good deal more than stubborn, steely resolve as she risks everything to follow her heart

It's not fair! Thirteen-year-old Joelle Cunningham is passionate about baseball. She loves to watch it, read about it, and, most of all, play it. But when her family moves from Minneapolis to the small town of Greendale, Iowa, she quickly discovers that there are strict rules preventing her from playing on the school baseball team.

At Hoover Middle School, only boys play baseball. Girls play softball. *It's not the same sport!* Joelle tries to tell everyone. But no one is listening. Not Coach Carlyle—even though his baseball team is at the bottom of the league, he doesn't want her on his team. Not Ms. Fenner, the softball coach—she wants Joelle to use her big-league swing to benefit the girls' team. Not her new friend, Elizabeth, who is growing tired of her complaints. Not even Jason, her older brother, who is too busy at college to be of much help.

But Joelle is determined to play baseball. And through some creative problem-solving and surprising alliances, she finds a solution to her dilemma that brings the disputing sides together . . . and baseball to the girls of Greendale.

Author Dori Butler has created a high-spirited, indomitable character that young girls will admire and root for in this story of frustrated ambition and ultimate triumph.

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Sliding into Home By Dori Hillestad Butler Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 4-8-Joelle, 13, has just moved from Minneapolis, where she was a star baseball player on her school's boys' team, to a small, rural Iowa town. At Hoover Middle School, there is only a girls' softball team and Joelle is not allowed to play with the boys. Upset by this and the fact that no one seems to understand that baseball and softball are not the same game, she is determined to play her sport of choice. Appealing first to the coach, then the principal, and next to the superintendent, Joelle is foiled at every step. Eventually she becomes involved in starting a girls' league with neighboring towns. When the school board finally changes its rules, Joelle turns down the offer to play with the boys. Filled with realistic emotions and dialogue, this involving tale has just the right amount of baseball action. It also provides an honest look at what it's like to be the "new kid" at school. The main character's thoughts are expressed in italics, which can be a bit distracting. Still, this is a winning story that will appeal to many readers.

Kate Kohlbeck, Randall School, Waukesha, WI

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 5-8. After she moves with her parents from Minneapolis to a small town in Iowa, 13-year-old baseball fanatic Joelle Cunningham cannot believe that she's not permitted to play on her new middle-school's baseball team. Convinced that girl's softball is not an adequate alternative to baseball, she starts a one-girl campaign to change the small town's rules, and her protest eventually expands into a community conflict that is televised on the local news. Determined Joelle is a fine protagonist. Readers will be caught not only by her drive to play ball and her willingness to take risks but also by her passionate commitment and the broadening vision that doesn't allow her to settle for just being the one female on an all-male team. Although there is only occasional play-by-play coverage of baseball games, the well-paced plot will engage readers, who will be moved by the story of a young teen who stands up for what she believes and goes after what she wants.

Roger Leslie

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Review

"The well-paced plot will engage readers, who will be moved by the story of a young teen who stands up for what she believes and goes after what she wants." —*Booklist*

"Joelle is a well-drawn character, sometimes unsure of her place in the scheme of things, and at other times ready to take on the world. . . . Breezy and fast-paced, with a feminist slant." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Filled with realistic emotions and dialogue, this involving tale has just the right amount of baseball action. It also provides an honest look at what it's like to be the 'new kid' at school. . . . A winning story that will appeal to many readers." —*School Library Journal*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donald Rose:

This Sliding into Home book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The

benefit you will get by reading this book is information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This specific Sliding into Home without we realize teach the one who examining it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't become worry Sliding into Home can bring once you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Sliding into Home having great arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

David Eaton:

This book untitled Sliding into Home to be one of several books which best seller in this year, that is because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit upon it. You will easily to buy this book in the book store or you can order it through online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason for you to past this book from your list.

Brent Henderson:

The book Sliding into Home will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading a book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to study, this book very ideal to you. The book Sliding into Home is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can more readily to read the book.

Candace Hernandez:

Precisely why? Because this Sliding into Home is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will surprise you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such remarkable way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of gains than the other book include such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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