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# Tangerine



## Synopsis

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind glasses so thick he looks like a bug-eyed alien. But he's not so blind that he can't see there are some very unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine County, Florida. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school, fire burn underground for years, and lightning strike at the same time every day? The chaos is compounded by constant harassment from his football star brother, and adjusting to life in Tangerine isn't easy for Paul until he joins the soccer team at his middle school. With the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover what lies beneath the surface of his strange new hometown. And he also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for far too long. In Tangerine, it seems, anything is possible.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 680L (What's this?)

Paperback: 312 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (September 1, 2006)

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.8 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 893 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,117 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors #7 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men #8 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

So what if he's legally blind? Even with his bottle-thick, bug-eyed glasses, Paul Fisher can see better than most people. He can see the lies his parents and brother live out, day after day. No one ever listens to Paul, though--until the family moves to Tangerine. In Tangerine, even a blind, geeky, alien freak can become cool. Who knows? Paul might even become a hero! Edward Bloor's debut novel sparkles with wit, authenticity, unexpected plot twists, and heart. The writing is so fine, the

story so triumphant, that you just might stand up and shout when you get to the end. Hooray! --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Living in surreal Tangerine County, Fla., a legally blind boy begins to uncover the ugly truth about his football-hero brother. PW praised Bloor for "wedding athletic heroics to American gothic with a fluid touch and flair for dialogue." Ages 11-up. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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This is a wonderful book for all ages to enjoy. It is engaging from the very beginning clear through to the last word. I mourned when it was over! I work at a middle school and was excited when I realized it was in our curriculum! I told the kids they were going to love this story, and sure enough, they did!

The book I loved it. I mean how any times do you get go into depth like that. The book in my opinion had a great way to express what was happening and it showed what life is like without any romance or drama the book just showed life through a child's eyes & I was just so glad how the story got resolved and how it shows what life can be like for a kid with disabilities

This is such a great book! I absolutely love it. It's a very great book which I would recommend it! It does say 1 curse word from what I have read in it , that may not be a huge deal but still I think it's good to know. This story never gets boring something big is always happening!! I got a used book and it came in, in just a few days and I did a normal shipping. When it came in I was expecting it to be in bad condition but it was in fantastic shape. There was just a little bended part on the edge of the book cover which isn't a big deal to me!!

I bought this for my 11-year-old daughter, but ended up reading it myself from cover to cover on the day it arrived. I ordered it because I knew she'd be interested in the soccer theme, but in the end it was much more than that. The well written story included a comparison of life in the middle class vs. the working migrant class, the favored athletic child vs. the overlooked nerdy child, with some fun settings mixed in (daily lightning strikes, underground fires, and a giant sinkhole). I couldn't wait to see how the plot lines would be resolved. It was very enjoyable and easy to read.

I originally picked up this book because of the awards it received that were listed on the back cover.

I wondered if it really deserved all of those awards and decided to find out for myself if it was a great book. It is. In this unique, coming-of-age story, author Edward Bloor creates a realistic tale that is at once engaging, humorous and filled with great twists. Paul Fisher wants just one thing - to play soccer - and he's not about to let anything stop him. Not the fact that he is legally blind, not the fact that his father only supports older brother Erik's football dream (while all but ignoring Paul), and not even the fact that he must suddenly play on a team where the majority is the minority and his teammates are a rough bunch. Older brother Erik has always tormented Paul, but their parents don't see it . . . or they refuse to see it. As a reader, I was angered at what Erik gets away with, but Paul quietly accepts it - just as he quietly accepts the fact that he wears the Coke-bottle glasses that make him so different from everyone else. Another thing that only Paul seems to realize is that Tangerine County, Florida, (to where they have just moved) isn't well suited for human habitation. Not only do they now live in the lightning-strike capital of the United States, they are also plagued with sinkholes, muck fires and swarms of mosquitoes. As long as he's able to play soccer though, Paul will put up with a lot. Naturally, when Paul's opportunity to play soccer is yanked away, Paul is devastated, but then a sudden twist of fate presents Paul with a new chance to play - and a whole new set of challenges. As Paul bravely confronts the obstacles that come his way, his older brother's increasingly disturbing behavior causes events around Paul to slowly spiral out of control. Eventually Paul must find the courage to stop quietly accepting things and show others the truth that they have refused to see all along.

Touching story, a younger brother is overshadowed by his abusive brother and his parents do not believe him, yet his parents do show him love and respect as well, I admire that. The ending was genuine, but disappointing, perhaps a bit rushed, no feeling of wanting to make you cry in tears out of happiness. I wish the ending was more precise on what was going to happen to him next, but I know he would be well.

I picked this book up because my seventh grade boys are reading it for English, and I wanted to be able to discuss it with them, and I can't wait for them to get further in. Bloor skillfully and engagingly manages tough topics. Prejudice. Privilege. Bullying. Standing by while others transgress moral and legal boundaries. Child abuse. Most importantly, the book follows seventh grade Paul in his journey toward personal integrity. As an avid reader, I thoroughly enjoyed it. As a parent, I could kiss the author for the deep and meaningful sub texts in this "soccer story."

granddaughter's for school - states it was okay.

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