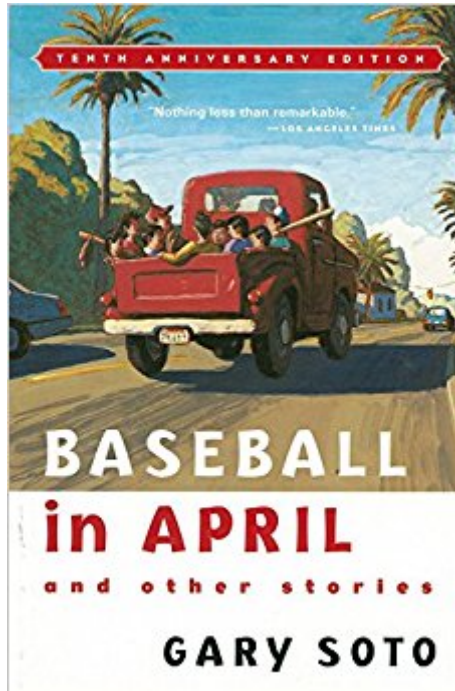




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# Baseball In April And Other Stories



## Synopsis

The Mexican American author Gary Soto draws on his own experience of growing up in California's Central Valley in this finely crafted collection of eleven short stories that reveal big themes in the small events of daily life. Crooked teeth, ponytailed girls, embarrassing grandfathers, imposter Barbies, annoying brothers, Little League tryouts, and karate lessons weave the colorful fabric of Soto's world. The smart, tough, vulnerable kids in these stories are Latino, but their dreams and desires belong to all of us. Glossary of Spanish terms included. Awards: ALA Best Book for Young Adults, Booklist Editors' Choice, Horn Book Fanfare Selection, Judy Lopez Memorial Honor Book, Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award, John and Patricia Beatty Award

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 830L (What's this?)

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (April 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152025677

ISBN-13: 978-0152025670

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.3 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 38 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #13,872 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino #12 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Baseball #31 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

"Honest and moving," said PW about these 11 contemporary short stories, adding that "Most readers will recognize truths revealed through everyday events and will appreciate Soto's ability to crystallize a moment." Ages 10-up. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 4-7-- Insightful about the characteristics of early adolescents, Soto tells 11 short stories about everyday problems of growing up. Latinos in central California are the focus of the stories, but the events are typical of young teens anywhere in the United States. The main characters try out for Little League teams, take karate lessons, try to get the attention of the opposite sex, and are embarrassed by their grandparents' behavior. These day-to-day events reveal the sensitivity, humor, and vulnerability of today's young people. The descriptions and dialogue are used to advantage, helping to create and sustain the mood. A glossary of Spanish terms is included. Young readers should easily identify with the situations, emotions, and outcomes presented in these fine short stories. --Janice C. Hayes, Middle Tennessee State University, MurfreesboroCopyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I bought just one copy of the book, but I put it under the document camera and on the Interwrite board. I had a very small ESL reading class (only 12 students), and they got a big kick out of most of the stories in this book. All of the students were 6th and 7th grade Hispanic students and they could really relate to the stories about Hispanics in CA who were there their age. The book arrived quickly and I was able to find some free lesson plans online to print out. A great buy and I plan to use the book again with another class of students this year. I'm sure they'll like the stories, too. If I didn't have to buy books myself without reimbursement, I'd sure buy a set of these books!

Several very easy to read, mostly coming of age short stories, based within the latino culture are all entertaining. Very well written stories.

Very entertaining story.

Not my style, although I have enjoyed other books by this author.

Gary Soto can see the world through the eyes of children and young adults. My fifth grade students related well to his stories, and so did I. Children are not talked down to. Messages for adults as well. Good for reluctant readers.

Revived the book

Great

Some of the stories are good some are just OK.

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