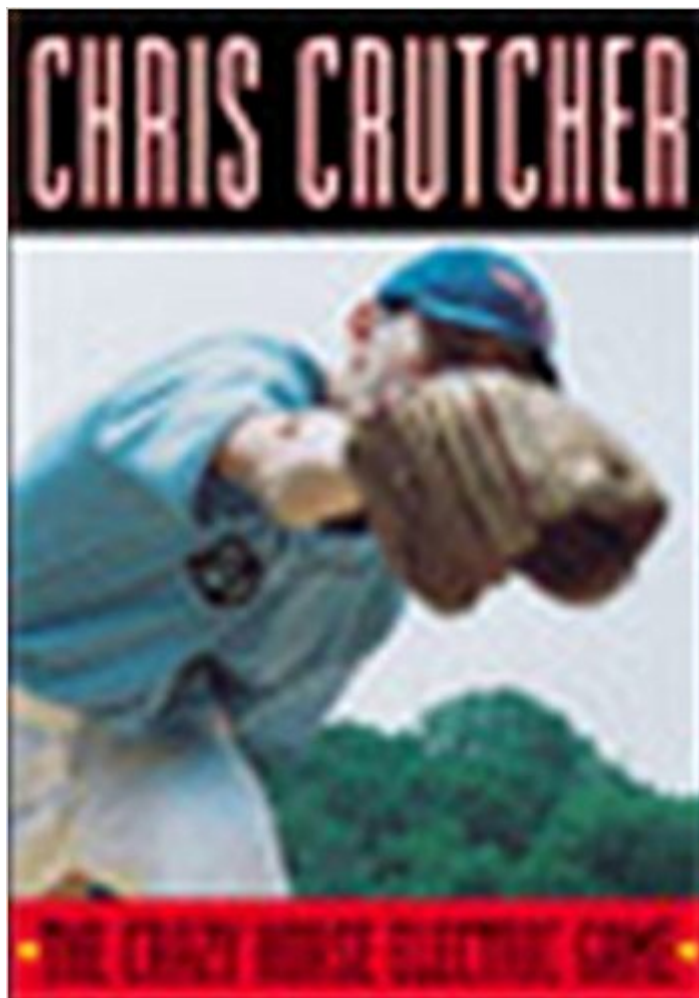




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The Crazy Horse Electric Game



Synopsis

Willie Weaver used to be a hero. Now he's nothing. Willie is a top athlete, the star of the legendary game against Crazy Horse Electric. Then a freak accident robs him of his once-amazing physical talents. Betrayed by his family, his girlfriend, and his own body, Willie's on the run, penniless and terrified on the streets, where he must fight to rebuild both his body and his life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 8 Up The title refers to the game for the Eastern Montana American Legion baseball championship, as the star pitcher, Willie Weaver, leads his team against the powerful squad from Crazy Horse Electric. But the emphasis of the novel shifts quickly away from baseball after Willie suffers a head injury in a water skiing accident. Unable to accept the loss of his athletic prowess, the pity of others, and his parents' troubled marriage, Willie runs away and ends up in the inner city of Oakland, California. After being beaten and robbed by a gang, Willie is rescued by a black bus driver/pimp, who enrolls Willie in a school for troubled youths. Thanks to the understanding staff of the school, Willie regains his mental and physical abilities and his self-confidence. He returns home to Montana, however, to learn that there is no longer a place for him in the lives of those he left. If nothing else, Crutcher manages to cram many of the most popular themes of young adult novels into this book, as Willie faces the crib death of his sister, divorce, drugs, sexual feelings, gang violence, mental handicaps, physical handicaps, prostitution, child beating, and more. Willie's present-tense narration is annoying, and does not work well for this story that covers several years.

The author is best in the effective description of Willie's effort to recover from his injury. But this is the best that can be said for a novel that often seems contrived. Todd Morning, Schaumburg Township Public Library, Ill. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Chris Crutcher has written nine critically acclaimed novels, an autobiography, and two collections of short stories. Drawing on his experience as a family therapist and child protection specialist, Crutcher writes honestly about real issues facing teenagers today: making it through school, competing in sports, handling rejection and failure, and dealing with parents. He has won three lifetime achievement awards for the body of his work: the Margaret A. Edwards Award, the ALAN Award, and the NCTE National Intellectual Freedom Award. Chris Crutcher lives in Spokane, Washington.

What a great story of despair and triumph---without a candy-coated ending. Crutcher tells it like it is!

This is a shining example of Crutcher's ability to meet a young person at his or her lowest point. Through his expert writing, he walks devastated characters from their dark hopelessness to a reasonable, acceptable reason for living. You really fight for this young man as he fights his way out of the quicksand.

My nephew, who hates to read.... Hates to read, could not put it down! Grand slam!!

Deals with loss and how a young man, who has everything going for him, soon finds himself unable to be an athlete. Crutcher does a great job of taking us on a journey with this young man. It's a wonderful and surprising journey.

I loved this book in grade school. Opted to read it as an adult and still enjoyed the story

While this is an older book, it's still a fine YA book and still a good read. Chris Crutcher doesn't go out of style

What can I say about Crutch. I have not finished this book yet, but already my interest is being held with his compelling and real life characters. I am wondering what will happen and what hidden

stories will bubble out of this one.

Even though this is in the young adult section many adults would relate to this book. I am thankful I read it.

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