



Out of the Pocket

By Bill Konigsberg

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The 2009 Lambda Literary Award-winning novel is finally available in paperback! This new second edition includes two brand new bonus chapters, a foreword by former NFL punter Chris Kluwe, and an afterword by outsports.com co-founder Jim Buzinski. Star quarterback Bobby Framingham, one of the most talented high school football players in California, knows he's different from his teammates. They're like brothers, but they don't know one essential thing: Bobby is gay. Can he still be one of the guys and be honest about who he is? When he's outed against his will by a student reporter, Bobby must find a way to earn back his teammates' trust and accept that his path to success might be more public, and more difficult, than he'd hoped. An affecting novel about identity that also delivers great sportswriting. "A thought-provoking, funny, and ultimately uplifting story of self-actualization that masterfully defies stereotypes about both coming out and team sports." –School Library Journal "A thoughtful, powerful novel." –Booklist "It's tough enough completing your pass as the linebackers blitz, but when your private life is also crashing in, the game is about survival. A hard-hitting first novel about quarterbacking your life." – Robert Lipsyte, author of Raiders Night "How I rooted for Bobby, and all his imperfect, complicated, oh-so-human friends." – Catherine Gilbert Murdock, author of Dairy Queen and The Off Season

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up—Senior quarterback Bobby Framingham is gay and tired of keeping it a secret. He confides in a close friend who promises not to tell, and then does. Suddenly Bobby is in the spotlight, and raw emotions come into play. His best girl friend is hurt and disgusted. His coach insists that he's not really gay. His teammates' reactions range from supportive to freaked out to furious. In the meantime, his father undergoes treatment for cancer, and the football team comes together to prepare for a championship game. The sports-action sequences are well drawn and engaging, and the bond among teammates is strong. Character interactions are believable and often surprising, and Bobby is a likable narrator. A few repetitive scenes are a small price to pay for a thought-provoking, funny, and ultimately uplifting story of self-actualization that masterfully defies stereotypes about both coming out and team sports.—*Megan Honig, New York Public Library*

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From [Booklist](#)

Bobby Framingham is one of the top high-school quarterback prospects in California. He's troubled, though, by his growing realization that he is gay—not easy in the homophobic world of school sports. He confides in his coach, a teacher, and a few friends before he is outed by an unscrupulous reporter for the school newspaper. This sets off a firestorm of national media attention, which Bobby faces bravely. At the same time, he also comes to terms with his father's cancer, and he meets a young man, whom he starts to date. At the end, Bobby finds acceptance at home, at school, and with his friends. Most of the elements in this story, told in Bobby's authentic first-person voice, ring true, from Bobby's initial struggle with his sexual identity to the sometimes hostile reaction of his teammates. Bobby's father's illness adds an unnecessary element of melodrama, but this is a minor quibble with a thoughtful, powerful novel. Grades 9-12. --Todd Morning

Review

...a thought-provoking, funny, and ultimately uplifting story of self-actualization that masterfully defies stereotypes about both coming out and team sports. -- *School Library Journal*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Theresa Gayle:

The book *Out of the Pocket* give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable far more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting anxiety or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make reading a book *Out of the Pocket* for being your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like open up and read a guide *Out of the Pocket*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or some others. So , how do you think about this publication?

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