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# Night Hoops (Turtleback School & Library Binding Edition)



## Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. While trying to prove that he is good enough to be on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 630 (What's this?)

School & Library Binding: 224 pages

Publisher: Turtleback Books; Turtleback School & Library ed. edition (September 7, 2009)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 4.3 x 0.9 x 6.9 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 68 customer reviews

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 8-10-Nick Abbott finds himself trying to deal with his parent's divorce and a host of other problems that face him during his sophomore year. He wants above all else to be a star player on his high school basketball team. As the story progresses, Nick learns how to control the tempo of a game as a point guard, and he also begins to reach a greater maturity in his life. Central to the story is his relationship with his disturbed and angry teammate and neighbor, Trent Dawson. The young men form an uneasy bond as they quietly practice each night on Nick's backyard court. Eventually, they become a dominating duo on the court, with Trent's aggressiveness complemented by Nick's feel for the game. This is an excellent novel. Nick's first-person narration is authentic throughout. The author perfectly captures the swirl of ideas in the adolescent mind. The descriptions of the games are well written and accurate. Best of all, the complexities of basketball are contrasted with the complexities of life. Nick learns how important it is to make adjustments during the course of a

game, and he learns that adjustments are also important in life. This message is imparted subtly, though. Deuker delivers a story that features rounded characters dealing with real problems, set against the backdrop of a varsity basketball season. Todd Morning, Schaumburg Township Public Library, IL Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Always in the shadow of his older brother, Scott, Nick begins to catch his father's attention when Scott gives up basketball to spend more time on his music, and Nick's basketball prowess develops. Nick's talent is further nurtured by nightly one-on-one games with a disturbing neighbor, Trent Dawson. A master at writing good basketball sequences, Deuker vividly depicts every fast break, every trap, but as with *On the Devil's Court* (1988), he uses basketball as a device to tackle larger issues. This time, Deuker is writing about choices: Scott elects music instead of basketball and his father's approval; Trent seems to be choosing school (via basketball) instead of a life of crime; and Nick decides to support Trent despite his father's advice and his peers' disapproval. Complex characters make the story compelling. The basketball coach, Mr. O'Leary, is particularly endearing, gruff, and exacting but also willing to gamble on the kids when the moment seems right. Deuker offers no easy answers; he's honest enough to leave Trent's future unresolved. The conclusion isn't entirely realistic, but the story is satisfying and hopeful, and the book will be an easy sell. Frances Bradburn Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Excellence!

I bought this for my classroom library. Carl Deuker books are great! The school library copy is bedraggled with so much use!

Purchased this book for my 14 year old son who loves basketball, he read right through it without me even asking him to do his reading.

This is a great book for teen boys. I bought it for my all boys class, and I am sure they will love the plot.

This was the book that my daughter needed for English class at school.. She really enjoyed the

book...Excellent choice for her

This book was fantastic and had a lot of details it was surprising and I was excited to read it

I needed it for school for my son

Keeps you into it. For me, it wasn't the best book, but it's great for just passing time.

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