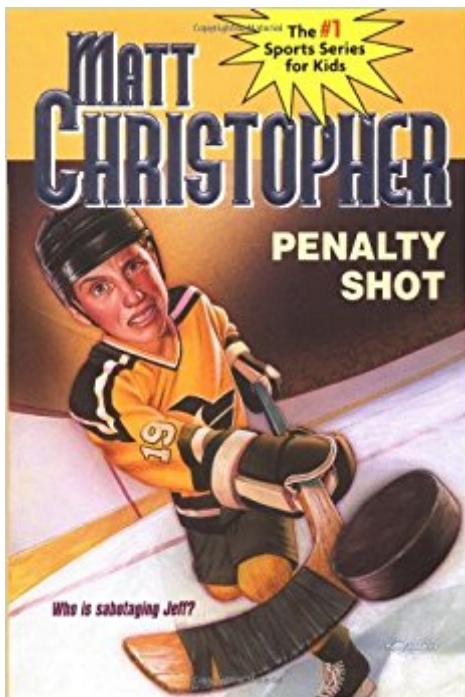


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# Penalty Shot (Matt Christopher Sports Classics)



## **Synopsis**

After a hiatus from the ice to get his grades back up to eligibility level, Jeff Connors returns to get the cold shoulder treatment from his teammates. During Jeff's absence, a threatening note was discovered in his best friend's locker--written in Jeff's hand. His protests of innocence fall on deaf ears, so Jeff is on his own to discover who's behind the sabotage.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 690L (What's this?)

Series: Matt Christopher Sports Classics (Book 51)

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (January 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316141909

ISBN-13: 978-0316141901

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,248,815 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #188 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Winter Sports #1483 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #2607 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## **Customer Reviews**

Just read this book with my 6 year old hockey player...he loved it for the hockey action, and I loved it for the messages it sent about teamwork and friendship and overcoming fears. This is a terrific book for a young athlete.

Penalty Shot was written by Matt Christopher and had a sports-friendship theme. It is a very good book. It is about a boy named Jeff, who the year before had been kicked-off the hockey team because his English grade had slipped. This year he is determined not to let that happen again. He even gets a tutor. Now someone has been changing his composition papers with flunking

composition papers. Whoever switched the composition papers, even got into the garbage and dug out a note that Jeff had written to his friend and turned it into a friendship breaking note. Now Jeff has to find out who wants him off the team and who is messing with his friendship. It's a great book.

It's another exciting action packed sports story by Matt Christopher that every kid will love that teaches many valuable lessons about friendships, good grades, and playing hockey. The thrill of this story intensifies when the reader learns about some prankster who writes a bad note in hopes of getting a good hockey player bumped from the team. Yes, good grades and playing hockey do go together, I strongly recommend this book so much that I am going to buy it for my grand kids, and I'm Marvin P. Ferguson, author of Boys On The Gold Coast.

Would you like to play hockey and then get bumped off the team? This happens in Matt Christopher's story Penalty Shot. A person named Jeff was a hockey player, he got bumped off the team last year. He is trying out for the team again this year. Wait till you see what happens! I thought this was a great book, because I love hockey! I think anyone would like this book!

I am currently reading this book with my son and it is extremely frustrating. Mr. Christopher's understanding of the sport of hockey is appalling. The entire central conflict of the book revolves around the protagonist's desire to make and stay on the team's starting lineup. Mr. Christopher makes the so-colossal-it's-unbelievable blunder of presuming that a starting lineup in hockey is the same as a starting lineup in baseball (a sport that Mr. Christopher actually had a good knowledge of) and that just as one baseball player will play center field or shortstop for an entire game, so too will one hockey player play left wing or center for an entire game. And when I say an entire game, please understand that I mean an ENTIRE game. Without rest. Anyone with even the most tenuous understanding of the game of hockey knows that this is not the case, and that teams continuously switch up 3 or 4 revolving lines in shifts during play. The idea of one player (besides the goalie, obviously) staying on the ice for an entire game, as players routinely do in this book, is so ridiculous that it has ruined all enjoyment of the book for both me and my son (who, at 5 years old, already knows more about the game of hockey than Mr. Christopher ever did, it seems). And don't even get me started on his play-by-play descriptions, which never approach capturing the feel of an actual game of hockey! Extremely, extremely frustrating.

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