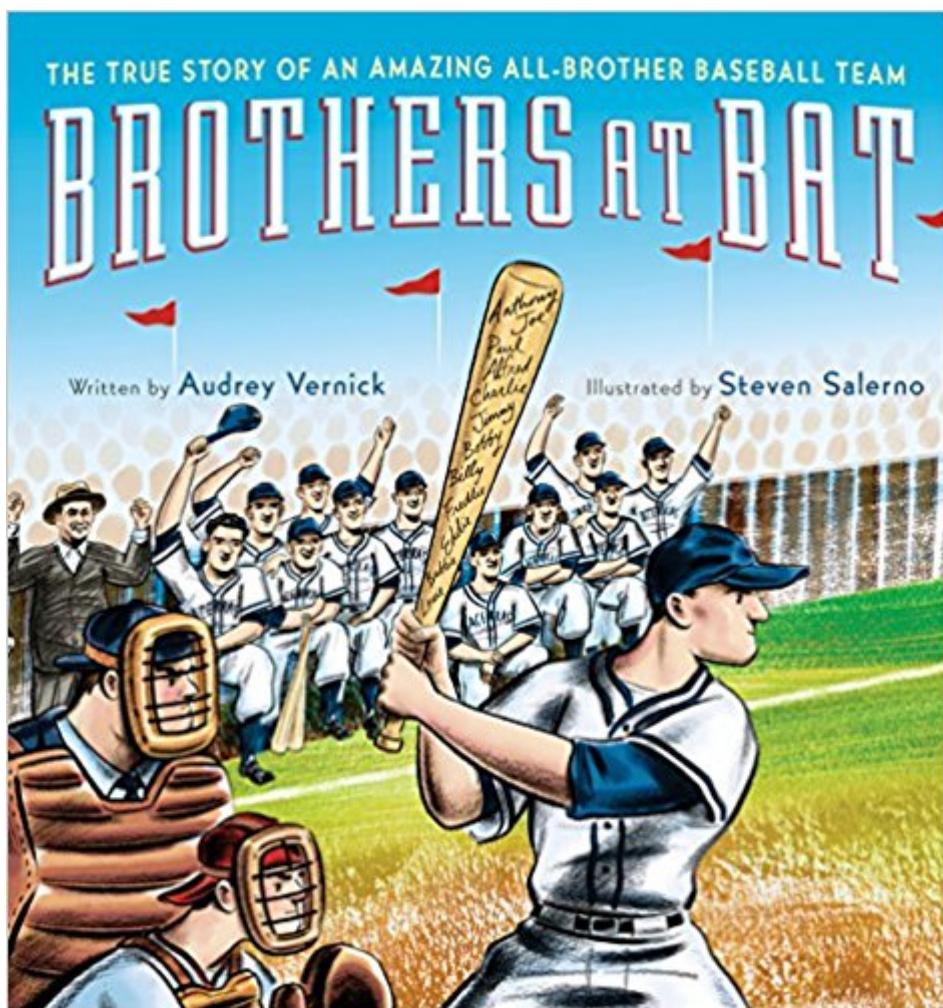


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# Brothers At Bat: The True Story Of An Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team



## Synopsis

The Acerra family had sixteen children, including twelve ball-playing boys. It was the 1930s, and many families had lots of kids. But only one had enough to field a baseball team . . . with three on the bench! The Acceras were the longest-playing all-brother team in baseball history. They loved the game, but more important, they cared for and supported each other and stayed together as a team. Nothing life threw their way could stop them. Full of action, drama, and excitement, this never-before-told true story is vividly brought to life by Audrey Vernick's expert storytelling and Steven Salerno's stunning vintage-style art.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Clarion Books (April 3, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547385579

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Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 46 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #42,671 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Sports & Recreation #41 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s #54 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Employing descriptive, conversational language in a matter-of-fact tone that doesn't sentimentalize, Vernick tells of a remarkable family. Salerno's lively drawings complement the action, striking a balance between detail and expansiveness. A family's love and devotion to each other and to the game of baseball, depicted lovingly. - Kirkus This story of a real American family whose bond was the game is brought to vivid life through illustrations created with black crayon, gouache, watercolor, and pastel. The heavy crayon lines, a digitally enhanced palette alive with blues and greens, and beautifully designed pages capture the feel of this slice of American history. - Horn Book "I was lucky

to play in the big leagues with my brother as a teammate and my dad as our manager. It was a very special time. The story of the Acerra brothers brought those memories back. It is a wonderful illustration of what a great game baseball is and how it brings families together on many different levels. Brothers at Bat is a story any baseball fan will enjoy and one that we all should know."--Hall of Famer Cal Ripken, Jr. "A captivating story, impeccable layout, and glorious illustrations make this historical account an unqualified winner." --New York Times Book Review"With a sense of humor, Audrey Vernick tells the true-life story of the 12 Acerra boys of Long Branch, NJ, who formed a team coached by their dad." --USA Today"A remarkable story." --Wall Street Journal"A lively story about family loyalty and love of the game, pulled from the sidelines of baseball history." --Publishers Weekly, \*starred review\*"A delight not to miss." --School Library Journal, \*starred review\*"[A] story of brotherly--and baseball--love." --Booklist, \*starred review\*"Vernick's wry and rousing narration is perfectly matched by Salerno's mixed-media pictures."--The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, \*starred review\*"Employing descriptive, conversational language in a matter-of-fact tone that doesn't sentimentalize, Vernick tells of a remarkable family . . . Salerno's lively drawings, rendered in black crayon, gouache, watercolor and pastel with digital color added, complement the action, striking a balance between detail and expansiveness.A family's love and devotion to each other and to the game of baseball, depicted lovingly." --Kirkus Reviews"This story of a real American family whose bond was the game is brought to vivid life through illustrations." --Horn Book Magazine"For those who love baseball, history and family stories, this book hits a home run."--Shelf Awareness, \*starred review\* "Striking black crayon, gouache and watercolor paintings enhanced with digital color provide a solid backup to the tightly written narrative. A very pleasing slice of American history." --Cleveland Plain DealerA New York Times Notable Book for 2012A 2012 Booklist Editor's Choice

Audrey Vernick is author of several novels and many picture books, including *Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team*. She lives with her family near the ocean in New Jersey. Learn more at [www.audreyvernick.com](http://www.audreyvernick.com) and on Twitter at @yourbuffalo. Steven SalernoÂ has illustrated many popular picture books for children, including *Brothers at Bat* and *The Fantastic Ferris Wheel* (Holt).Â A graduate of Parsons School of Design, where he studied under famed author/illustrator Maurice Sendak, Steven's illustrations appear in the New York Times as well as magazines, advertising campaigns, product packaging, and retail interiors. He lives and works in New York City. [www.stevensalerno.com](http://www.stevensalerno.com)

I am a school librarian and I read this to my fifth grade students and they loved it. I had them write the letter that one of the brothers is holding while he is away at war. I found video of the brothers playing baseball on youtube and shared it with the class while they were selecting books. I also research which brothers were still alive and shared that with them. They didn't like that the youngest brother died before some of the older brothers. I even emailed the author to tell her how much I loved her book.

This fun, true story is a huge hit with the little ball players in my home and with friends who come over to play. You know a book is good when an eight year old stops running around with his pals and sits happily for twenty minutes reading! The fun details of the players ages, names, highs and lows and (one brother hit home runs into the Atlantic Ocean, another looked like he was posing for a baseball card when he was up to bat, etc) have made an impression on my son. The Accera's image of loving, busy family life anchored in a love of baseball makes this a new favorite of mine, too.

My boys love baseball and thought this story was really fun. Especially the pictures and the concept of having so many siblings. Good for baseball fans.

My boys (8 & 6) LOVE this book. It's a true story. We passed a WWII monument the other day and the younger one asked if it was an Acerra brother. I had no clue what he was talking about. "You know mom, one of the baseball brothers who went to war!" That tells me it's a great book!

This book is indeed a true story about my father, Anthony A. Acerra, (the oldest) and his brothers who formed the all-brother team. Unfortunately the movers lost my book (among other things that were important to me) when I relocated from Ca. to Florida so I replaced it by ordering through . I grew up in an "amazing" family and will remember our bus trips to play against any team foolish enough to challenge the "Amazing All-Brother Team".

This is a must for your library! Kids read this all the time in the school library . It's a very interesting book!

There are so few stories told with more than 2 children, maybe 3 in the children's book arena. This one tops the chart. And it is a true story...it's like finding gold dust. :)

An absolutely charming book. Love the story and the pictures. Bought more for gifts.

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