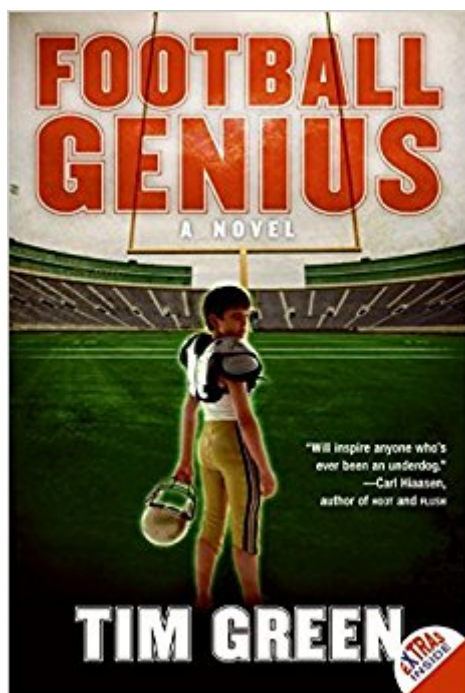


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# Football Genius



## Synopsis

New York Times bestselling author and former NFL player Tim Green scores a touchdown with this exhilarating and action-packed story about an ordinary boy who becomes a hero you can really root for. Perfect for fans of Mike Lupica. Twelve-year-old Troy White has a phenomenal gift: He can predict football plays before they even happen. Any position. Any player. Any team. When Troy's single mom gets a job working for the Atlanta Falcons, Troy sees this as an opportunity to show what he can do. But first he has to get to the Falcons' and with tight security and a notoriously mean coach, even his mom's field passes aren't much help. Then Troy and his best friends devise a plan to get the attention of star linebacker Seth Halloway. With Seth's playing and Troy's genius, the Falcons could be unstoppable if they'll only listen. But if he can't convince Seth he's telling the truth, the Falcons' championship and his mom's job are at risk.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 800 (What's this?)

Series: Football Genius (Book 1)

Paperback: 272 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 125 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #25,594 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Football #96 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #125 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Adult author and former Atlanta Falcon Green (American Outrage) delivers a satisfying YA debut, using his own NFL experience to bring readers behind the scenes. Twelve-year-old Troy White's

athletic ability and his preternatural talent for predicting football strategy are both going to waste (he's stuck playing second-string on his team), until frustration with a vicious bully on his team pushes him to borrow an official NFL football from local Atlanta Falcons star linebacker Seth Halloway. As Troy languishes on his own football team and resents the father who abandoned him, he strives to alert the Falcons of his gift: Sometimes a kid's heart tells him to do something and he needs to listen, even if it means getting in trouble. Acting as a mentor, Seth encourages Troy to come clean about his adventures (The truth is more important than the trouble it brings) and to forgive his father's desertion (All I know is, things happen. Unless you're the one they're happening to, you usually can't understand it). Seth ends up dating Troy's mother and coaching Troy's team, giving Troy the chance to shine not only on the sidelines, where his play-predicting ability helps bring the Falcons to victory, but on the field as well. There was no rage fueling him now. It was something else, a blinding energy he never knew he had. Non-sports fans will root for underdog Troy (I want to do something. I want to be something. I thought this was my chance) and enthusiasts will thrill to the firsthand knowledge Green brings to the novel. Ages 10-up. (July) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 5 • Troy White is every football team's dream—even if they don't know it yet. Although he's in middle school, he is a great quarterback on his rec team, and he's got a secret talent—he can watch any football game and, after a few plays, he can call the subsequent plays before they happen. When Troy's mom, Tessa, gets a job as PR assistant for the Atlanta Falcons, Troy thinks he'll get the chance to use his gift and help his favorite team to a winning season. The boy finally manages to convince the star player of his hidden talent, but when it rubs the team's defensive coordinator the wrong way, Tessa's job is threatened. The race is on to try to save the Falcons' season as well as Tessa's job. Written by Tim Green, a former linebacker for the Falcons, this exciting story (HarperCollins, 2007) will immediately draw in sports fans. Narration is performed well by a full cast, including Green. Since so many different voices are used, there is sometimes a chopiness to the narrative. On occasion, overly melodramatic music overshadows the ending of a chapter or the beginning of the next one. A good addition for large libraries and those seeking to attract tween/teen boys. • Jessica Miller, New Britain Public Library, CT Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Football Genius by Tim Green follows Troy White as he realizes a dream. Troy lives with his mom, has two good friends and loves football. But he hardly ever gets to play because he's second string quarterback and the first string quarterback's father is the coach. So Troy sits on the sidelines. But he has a gift of being able to predict what the other teams' next play will be. There's a turn of events when Troy's mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons football team. Will Troy get a chance to help them turn around their losing season? I enjoyed this book. It was my first sports related read in a long time. I did find it a bit hard to follow some of the technical football terms, but it was a good read anyway. It gives you what you need to know to get an idea about what's happening during the game scenes. I'm familiar with Atlanta and the Falcons, so it made for an entertaining read to hear about places I knew. While using a real football team made it realistic, it also dates the book. I admit that I only recognized a handful of players names, many of which are now retired from the NFL. Troy's character is realistic and easy to relate to. Like any other 12-year-old kid he has dreams, good friends and minor problems at school with bullies. He sometimes makes poor decisions but he owns up to them. I thought this was a good lesson because although he gets in trouble, it's not as bad as if he chose to lie. Truth is an important theme throughout. The suspense the author creates is great. I kept waiting for things to happen whether good or bad. It kept the momentum going and me reading, waiting for the next obstacle to be overcome. I recommend this for middle grade readers whether you like football or not, whether you're male or female. [www.cheresevinescharmingwords.wordpress.com](http://www.cheresevinescharmingwords.wordpress.com)

I tore thru the story and finished sooner than expected. The ending seemed abrupt. I wanted more. Loved it all.

I now have a trifecta of great novels for reluctant boy readers (ages 12-14)! Football genius is a predictable story filled with interesting football trivia guaranteed to hold the interest of young football players dreaming of an NFL career. Matched with Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie (Jordan Sonnenblick) and Tangerine (Edward Bloor) and you will have the boys reading nonstop. Girls will love the books because of the characters and friendships. Boys will relate to the ordinary protagonists striving to be special.

I don't know who liked this book more, me or my son! During the school year I like to read some of the books he reads to help him with reports that he has to do. I can't wait to read the next one in the series. It kept your attention from the beginning until the end. It had several messages in it for

athletes and young people regarding life in general. Determination is the key to success!

This book was great. I chose 5 stars because it was about sports and it was action packed with a little romance in the story. My favorite character was Troy and I loved the way of how he used his gift. That's why he's a Football Genius.

Very good book loved it, Tim Green is one of the best authors. He came to my school and made me want to read all the time

This book is awesome how Troy got to meet a famous football star and how he and his Mom went through a lot and it was a really good book

My 11 year old grandson really enjoyed it. I would suggest this book for anyone between 10 and 15 years old.

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