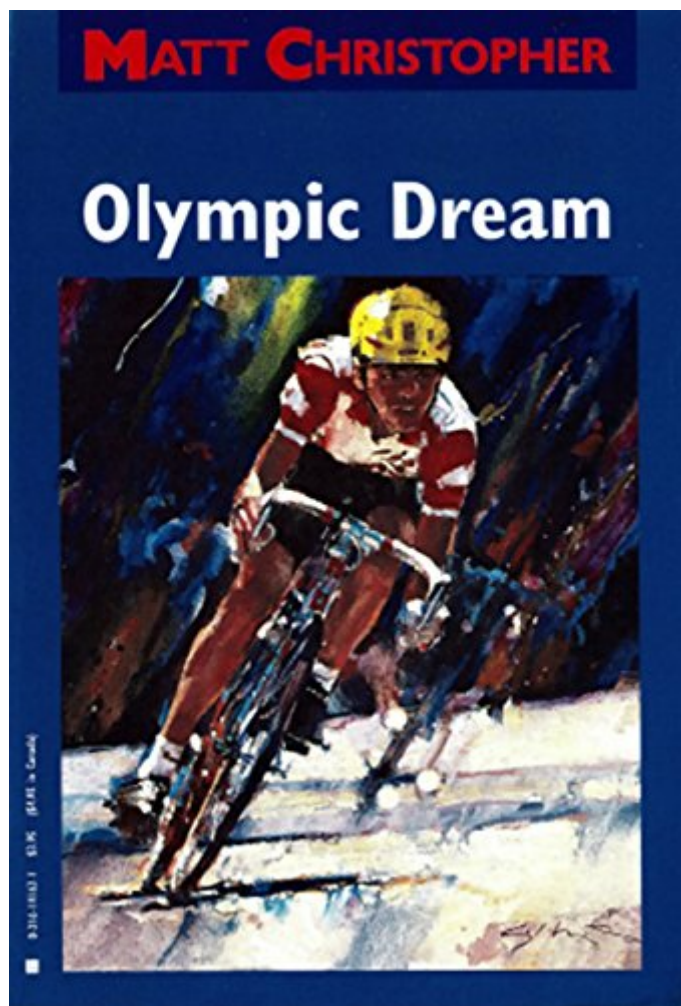




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Olympic Dream



Synopsis

Anticipating a boring summer before meeting energetic cycling enthusiast Red Roberts, Dough Cannon helps out with the construction of a new bike path and overcomes his personal demons in order to become a young athlete.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great book for sixth graders. Worked very well my Olympic unit this year and in years past. I wish you would bring it back in paper back!

This book was really good like the rest of matt christophers books. I loved all the action and the suspense.

The book Olympic Dream is about a kid named Doug Cannan. He's a fourteen year-old boy and is in the eight grade. Doug's the goalie for his school hockey team. Slowly he's growing into a self confident person. Doug plays video games all the time at an arcade across the street from his house. Sadly, he has kids call him ``wide body'' which he doesn't like and it hurts his feelings. Doug

lives in a small town somewhere in the United States. The time that this story took place in was in the 1990's. In Doug's family there are his mom, dad, and his sister, that is a lot older than him. Doug's older sister, Kate, is getting married to Terry. Terry's friend, Red, was in town for their wedding. Red almost made the U.S.A. Cycling Team, and he loves to ride for fun. When the arcade across the street burned down, Doug needed something to keep him busy during the summer. Doug asked Red if he could go to the cycling club with Red. Once Doug arrived at the club, he noticed that all the guys who did cycling were fit. He got on the bike and started to ride down the track. On the downhill and even parts of the track, it was easy for him, but on the uphill climbs, it was difficult. As Doug kept practicing, the more he enjoyed it. Again his weight was a factor in the hard parts of the rides, but he still liked it when he finished his workout. The first couple of races were a little disappointing. As Doug trained until he couldn't do anymore, it paid off. When Doug went to more races and did better and better, something amazing happened. He was accepted to participate in the State Championships. He won all because he trained and trained. The main point this author made was to say that if you have to work for it, it just can't come to you easily. My opinion of the book is that it is a good, enjoyable book. I can't say that it will be the best book I will ever read, but it is a good book. What I liked about this story was that the topics are very interesting. The cycling part my dad does for fun and so do I. I would like to recommend this book for boys and girls, ages 6-13, even though it is about a guy. The kids that would like it would like sports books, also. I had an enjoyable time reading this book. If you read it, I hope you will like it, too.

Olympic Dream by Matt Christopher is an extremely amusing, in my opinion. This book takes place in a small town in the U.S., late 1980's. It is about an adolescent boy. Doug, who meets a man, Red, that completely changes his life. They become friends and Red teaches Doug to ride a bike. The reasons I am recommending this book are, that the author was very descriptive on every part including the characters and setting. He went into superb detail about each character's personality. He described the setting which was the town so that you could visualize it as you were reading it. For instance he described the arcade and old wooden shack with 6 arcade machines each costing a quarter to play. He also made this book have a wonderful moral. This book teaches a lesson that stuck in my head and sticks in others' heads too. The moral was never give up and never stop trying. Even though he described the book well he didn't describe it enough to make it boring. Some people say that the problem with this book is that there wasn't a main character. That can be exceptional or miserable but in my opinion that is extraordinary. I think having more than one main character is remarkable because the story isn't focused on one person but on three or four people.

This makes the story more absorbing. The three main characters lives all connect. One is the best man in Doug's sisters wedding. Doug is taught to ride a bike by Red (the best man) and they all support each other and it shows different points of view.

I thought this book was an exciting book because in every part of the book there was something happening. I also liked it because it had a lot in it about biking and how to get started in biking without showing it directly. It also showed that if your a kind of lazy person who just sits and watches television all the time that you can get out and do something to make yourself proud like doug did on the book.

This book was fantastic! It really explains how to become a true Olympian. I really encourage people to read this great book!

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