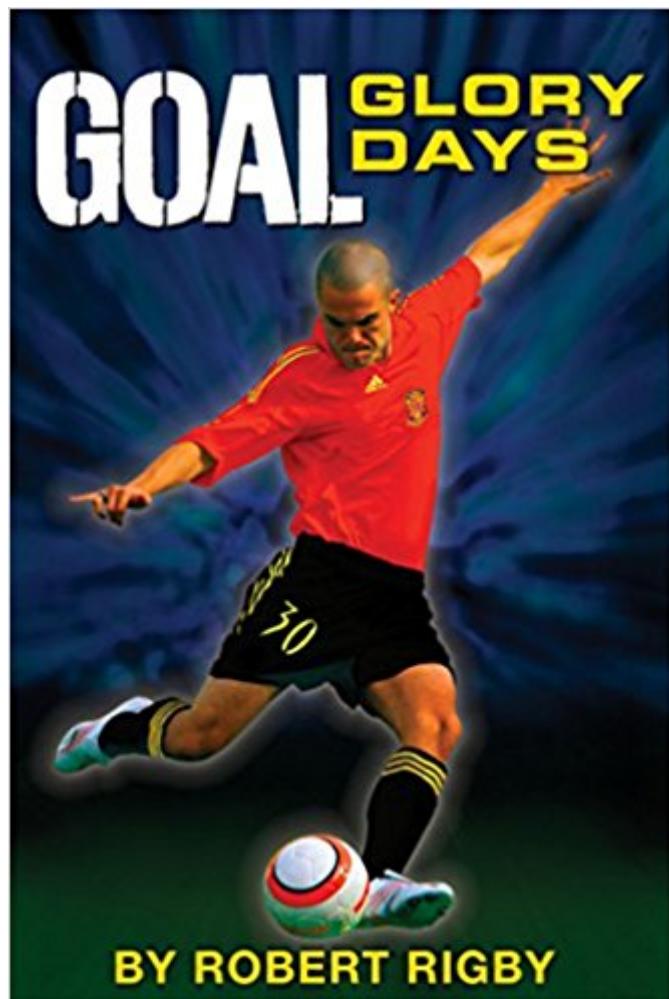


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GOAL: Glory Days



Synopsis

You saw him on the screen in the hit movies GOAL: The Dream Begins and GOAL II: Living the Dream. Now the saga of young professional soccer player Santiago Muñoz continues in this final installment of the GOAL trilogy. With a fresh start and a warm welcome from his old fans in Newcastle, Santi returns to England and to the team where his career began. Soon he's back at the top of his game, and when he is selected for a 2010 World Cup squad, it seems as if his dream of playing in the World Cup finals is within reach. But when Santi is injured during an international warm-up game, he worries that this could be the end of it all. With no time to waste, the pressure is on for him to get back on the field. Will his injury keep him from achieving his ultimate goal? Or will he recover in time to play in the greatest competition of his life?

Book Information

Series: Goal!

Paperback: 252 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 10 Up The follow-up to Goal!: The Dream Begins (2006) and Goal! II: Living the Dream (2007, both Houghton) is the story of Santiago Muñoz's lifelong plan to become a world-famous soccer player. This installment continues up until the World Cup 2010. In fact, this book actually covers the story of two lives: Santiago and his stepbrother Enrique, who is now living in England with Santiago, his wife Roz, and their new daughter, and plays on the Newcastle Soccer

Under-16 team. Rigby does an admirable job of catching readers up with the plotline, even though fans of the earlier two books will begin from page one with a caring fondness and hope that Santiago succeeds in his dream. Descriptions of the play-by-play are excellent and are interspersed with heart-wrenching moments of failure and disappointment. Rigby occasionally drops in the names of well-known soccer stars to keep the saga current. Teenage Enrique has his own problems with fitting in and with keeping the bullying he endures hidden from his family. Readers can identify and sympathize with his dilemma and the difficult decisions he must make. Purchase this book where the film or the first two books have been popular. Blair Christolon, Prince William Public Library System, Manassas, VA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

ROBERT RIGBY is a playwright, novelist, and television scriptwriter. His award-winning work with youth theater companies has been staged in Britain, Europe, the United States, and Africa. He is also the writer of the long-running BBC children's drama series *Byker Grove*. Official movie website: www.goalthemovie.com

After loving the film *Goal!* The Dream Begins [Blu-ray] and enjoying *Goal 2: Living the Dream* I was eagerly looking forward to the final installment *Goal 3*. Little did I know that I would be setting myself up for disappointment once *Goal 3* arrived. Despite having the words "To Be Continued" and all of the open cliffhangers at the end of *Goal II*, *Goal 3* was not a continuation and only featured Santiago Munez in a bit cameo part. Gone was Santiago's story only to be replaced with two new characters that were never featured before and judging by the ratings, no one cares about. *Glory Days* is what the final film should have been. Santiago's story finally comes to a conclusion as he prepares for the World Cup. Back are Roz (with a new addition to Santiago's family), Gavin Harris, and Santiago's new found half brother Enrique. Sadly missing is Santiago's friend and mentor from the previous two films, Glen Foy. Given what occurred in *Goal II*, I thought there would at least be a reconciliation between the two. This was the only disappointment I had with the story. At this point it may be too late to have a film version but at least there is a satisfying ending to Santiago's story in some form. If you've been waiting to find out the ending to Santiago Munez's long journey, now is your chance.

this from my daughter:Goal: *Glory Days* is about a soccer player Santi Munez who plays for Real Madrid. While he manages his soccer career, his brother Enrique pays a visit. Enrique is also

playing soccer for a local academy and he finds himself the victim position with bullies. Santi's dream is to star in the World Cup. When he finally gets that opportunity disaster strikes. An incident happens at his practice.... Santi hurries quickly to recover for the biggest soccer event of his life.

3 1/2 stars. Older elementary age boys and girls will enjoy "Goal." It hits the ground running, but our hero suffers an injury that puts his playing career in jeopardy, with a predictable outcome.

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