



Slump (D-Bow High School Hoops)

By Kevin Waltman

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"Waltman's series opener [*Next*] (first of a planned four) features plenty of basketball action fueled by hoops slang that will set basketball-mad readers right onto the court. . . . The author avoids slam-dunk answers, leaving readers poised for the next book. Like *Derrick*, this series is off to a promising high school career."—*Kirkus Reviews*

Things were supposed to change for sophomore year. Things were supposed to be—I don't know—easier somehow. At least with Jasmine. Instead it's more of a struggle than ever. At least last year when she was with Nick Starks I knew where I stood.

Derrick Bowen's sophomore year is a grind. He's been looking forward to the basketball season all summer, but his girlfriend Jasmine leaves him for putting too much focus on basketball. The promise his Marion East basketball team showed at the end of last season isn't materializing. And the sweet jumper D-Bow worked on all summer just isn't falling. When Derrick's father is severely injured in a car crash, Derrick is faced with a new reality where basketball can't be his only priority.

Kevin Waltman teaches creative writing at the University of Alabama. He lives in Coker, Alabama, with his family. *Slump* is the second book in his D-Bow High School Hoops series.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—In this follow-up to *Next* (Cinco Puntos, 2013), basketball star D-Bow enters his sophomore year, and the dreaded slump that goes with it. Girl problems and concerns about his dad's health keep him distracted, making it difficult for him to take the leadership position that his status as starting point guard would typically demand. In the end, D-Bow makes good decisions and learns how to be a team player. While the protagonist makes typical teen mistakes, he listens to the adults in his life and learns from his errors. His relationship with his coaches is particularly well drawn. A confusing title for anyone who hasn't read the first installment, fans already engaged in D-Bow's story will find the same strong characters and fast-paced basketball action they enjoyed in the first book. Readers will be left wondering what will await D-Bow in his junior year, as he begins to be recruited by colleges. This series will be a great addition to any collection that needs more YA sports-themed books. Fans of Paul Volponi and Kwame Alexander's *Crossover* (Houghton Harcourt, 2014) will appreciate this series entry.—Kristin Anderson, Columbus Metropolitan Library System, OH

Review

""With its deft balance of play-by-play action and off-the-court drama, this series scores."—*Kirkus Reviews*

About the Author

Kevin Waltman: Kevin Waltman is an instructor at The University of Alabama. He lives in Coker with his wife Jessica, their daughter Calla, and their dog Henry. His first young adult novel, *Nowhere Fast*, was published by Scholastic in 2002, and his second, *Learning the Game*, was published by Scholastic in 2005.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bernard McLaren:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive right now, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a reserve your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a book, we give you this specific *Slump (D-Bow High School Hoops)* book as beginning and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Alberta Sanchez:

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the information as well as their idea. Second, examining a book will make you actually more imaginative. When you studying a book especially fictional works book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the personas do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to some others. When you read this Slump (D-Bow High School Hoops), you could tells your family, friends and also soon about yours publication. Your knowledge can inspire the mediocre, make them reading a reserve.

Clarence Danner:

The actual book Slump (D-Bow High School Hoops) has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of help. The book was written by the very famous author. Tom makes some research previous to write this book. This book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading this article book.

Eric Rodriguez:

Why? Because this Slump (D-Bow High School Hoops) is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such amazing way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have got such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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