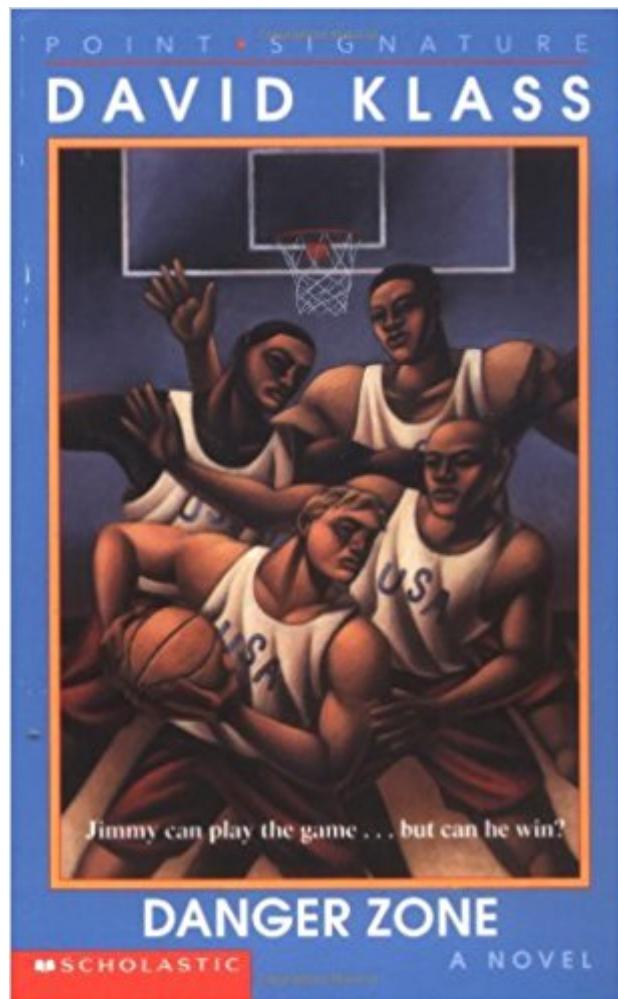


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# Danger Zone (Point Signature)



## **Synopsis**

In this award-winning novel, a young basketball star confronts a nightmare of racism in "one of the most thrilling climaxes in recent sports writing".--"Kirkus Review". .

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 12 and up

Lexile Measure: 850L (What's this?)

Series: Point Signature

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Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 4.2 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 71 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #556,846 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Baseball & Softball #94 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Basketball #212 in Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Basketball

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 7-10-Basketball, racism, and international terrorism are all ingredients in Klass's latest offering. Jimmy Doyle, high school junior and standout guard from Minnesota, is one of 10 players selected to represent the USA in an international tournament to be held in Rome. Upon arriving in Los Angeles for team practices, he's thrown together with ethnic and culturally diverse teammates who quickly open his eyes to a much wider world. He immediately clashes with team star and South-Central L.A. native Augustus LeMay, who feels Jimmy is on the team only because he is white. As the tournament in Rome unfolds, the American team is subjected to verbal abuse by a group of skinhead fans from Germany, which escalates into a physical confrontation, and later results in a death threat against the U.S. squad. The Americans still manage to make it to the championship game, which culminates in a last-second game-winning basket and also a gunshot. Told through Doyle's eyes, the narrative features memorable characters and thought-provoking situations. While the terrorist threat may seem a bit extreme, the racial tension throughout the book rings true, and readers seeking lots of hoop action will be thoroughly satisfied. Tom S. Hurlburt, La

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Gr. 7^12. In Granham, a small town in Minnesota, Jimmy Doyle is a basketball legend, the one the fans count on to sink the three-pointers and save the game. So when promoters pick an American High School Dream Team for a tournament in Italy, Doyle is offered a starting spot. The problem then becomes persuading himself and the talented African American inner-city kids who make up most of the team that he deserves the opportunity. The pace never lags, and Klass does a convincing job of capturing the feel of the game and depicting Doyle's attempts to be accepted by his teammates, as well as showing what happens when some terrorists add fear to the list of the team's opponents. Candace Smith --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The book came in good condition. I would recommend anyone buy from this company!! There was nothing at all wrong with any of the pages, no highlighting, no dents, no scribble or anything that would compromise the quality of book. I have no complaints and my son got an A+ on his exam!!

One of the only books I read in highschool. that says something because in HS i barely read. now I read all the time so shut up.

My son loves this book. A lot of funny anetodotes from the book.

Great book...my teenage son enjoyed reading it.

The book I ordered was in great shape. I had a very favorable experience ordering through .com and would definitely do it again. I got the item that I ordered and received it in the timeframe I was told.Thanks,

DANGER ZONE is told from the perspective of Jimmy Doyle. Jimmy is a high school junior from the relatively small town of Granham, Minnesota. His father died of a heart attack several years ago and Jimmy lives with his mom and his two younger sisters. He's an average student, but an all star basketball player known for being able to make the long outside shots. When he's not at practice or in school, he works for his mom in the hardware store that his dad started. Jimmy is a great

basketball player and people all around the country have heard of him. One night after a particularly impressive basketball game, Jimmy is approached by two men from L.A. They've flown out to Granham to see Jimmy play and believe he is the man for their team. The following summer the Junior World Championship Basketball tournament is going to be held in Rome and the men are the coaches for the American team. They want Jimmy on their team as a starting guard. Jimmy really wants to play, but he feels that because of his family situation there's no way that he can be gone from Granham for six weeks during the summer. However, the coaches talk to his mom and eventually Jimmy joins the team. When he arrives in L.A. the following summer, he's the only person on the team whom no one else knows. He's a mystery from Minnesota, but he soon proves himself and displays that he does have the talent to be the team's starting shooting guard. He earns the nickname of Snowman and begins to revel in the experience of playing basketball on a new level while also representing his country. However, the star of the team, Augustus LeMay, doesn't seem to like Jimmy. They fight the first time they meet and tensions remain high between them for most of weeks of training. After the team arrives in Rome, racial tensions flare up between Augustus and fans from Germany. An international incident happens and a terrorist threat is made and Jimmy has to decide if he is going to succumb to fear like his deceased father did or if he's going to conquer it and help lead the American Teen Dream Team to a championship.

When I first started reading DANGER ZONE, I wasn't sure what to expect. The book had been recommended to me by a family member who is a reluctant reader, but said it was one of the best books he has read in years and thought it would make a great movie. Other than that, I knew the book was about basketball. I have read some fictional basketball books in the past and haven't been that impressed by them. Often times a writer, particularly of young adult fiction, will write a story around sports because they are lazy; the stories usually have a boring plot with bad dialogue and very little character development but they have the characters participate in a sport to try to interest younger readers. I was happy to discover that DANGER ZONE was not such a book. The book has a very interesting story that deals with some important issues, including racism and terrorism. The characters are lifelike and the dialogue is realistic and not boring. I was engaged the entire time I was reading the book and I have to agree with my relative that the story would make a good movie (if done properly). If you enjoy good young adult fiction and don't mind stories that involve sports in their plot, you will probably enjoy DANGER ZONE. I particularly recommend it for boys who are reluctant readers, but who are involved with sports.

Jimmy is a star in his hometown, but can he play with All Stars in the U.S? Jimmy is from Minnesota

where he is the star in small town Granham. He can play Basketball, but can he compete with international teams as he joins the U.S. Teen Dream Team? They first travel to Los Angeles to practice with the team before the tournament. The top ten teen players in the country make the team and Jimmy is one of the two white players. Does his color make him look bad in the first practices? "Danger Zone" published in 1996 by David Klass shows Augustus' (black player on Jimmy's team) life in L.A. is very different from Jimmy's small town life. After Jimmy puts that and other conflicts behind him the U.S. Teen Dream Team flies to Italy for the tournament. There are more conflicts and a death threat is sent to them. Racism and loyalty take over the tournament. Racism collides with teammates and others, as they meet for the first time in L.A. and Italy. In the first practices, Jimmy cannot make a shot to save his life. Augustus thinks his cousin should have made the team instead of some no name. His thoughts turn into fists as he says to Jimmy, "You only made the team, because you're some rich white boy." Then it becomes Jimmy vs. Augustus in a fist fight. As the U.S. team flies to Italy some of the fans don't like Jimmy's teammates or the color of their skin. The dark skinned people in Italy are treated differently, as Augustus sees black people poor and living on the streets and he discusses this issue in a press conference. Fans from other teams think he and his black teammates should not be in this tournament. Are you loyal to your team and teammates though the whole tournament? Some players on Jimmy's team are loyal to their team in hard times, but one is loyal to them all the time. Augustus is that one. He toughened up and put the death threat behind him when others worried about what was going to happen during the tournament. Augustus was accustomed to being treated differently because of his childhood in L.A. and kept the team alive in the tournament. He is concerned about his teammates and when Jimmy is having a rough time sleeping, Augustus tells him "You're not helping us win and you look like death warmed over." Augustus is thinking about the team as a whole and for Jimmy's welfare. "Danger Zone" by David Klass is successful at showing anyone can overcome different types of obstacles when they have a goal. This book shows not to judge a book by its cover and "Danger Zone" shows racism plays a part even in a basketball game. This book has thrilling hoop action and is excellent to read. I would recommend this book to anyone, because it's story on how a teen copes with racism in a team environment. You won't want to put this book down; you'll just keep turning the pages. I give this book nine out of ten stars.

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