

The Big Time

Time Green

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Troy is a 12 year old boy, who loves the game of football. As quarter back of his football team, he just led them to a State Championship! He is being raised by his Mom and by a grandfather that he is close to. He has never known his real father. He's dreamt about him, and what it would be like to have a father, but until now it was only a dream. When Troy's Dad shows up at his house unannounced, Troy is thrilled and excited that he will finally get to know his Dad. Troy's Mom is suspicious of Troy's father, Drew and his desire to suddenly be a father.

Troy has been receiving a lot of national media attention because besides being an amazing quarter back of his football team, he also has a mental gift that allows him to predict what offensive plays a football team is going to make, before they make them. This allows Troy to be able to help his local professional football team, win games. As word of his special gift spreads, there are numerous opportunities for Troy to earn a tremendous amount of money for himself and his Mom. Million dollar contracts with professional football teams are at stake.

As Drew, Troy's Dad, tries to enter into Troy's life, trouble begins to brew. Drew is a well know lawyer and agent to a group of highly paid, extremely dangerous Rappers. Unbeknownst to Troy, Drew is also in trouble with the law and the Rappers that Drew owes money to. While Troy doesn't know his father is in trouble, his desire to have a relationship with his father leads him to discard a lot of advice from his Mom and Grandfather. He decides to let his father represent him as his agent while he is looking at possible multimillion dollar contracts with pro football teams. Drew's desire to represent Troy, is only fueled by his desire to keep money for himself, so he can pay back the group of rappers that he took money from. Troy's Mom tries to intervene and let Troy know that his father's intentions are selfish and only fueled by his need for money. Troy doesn't believe her, until the FBI steps in.

As the FBI begins to explain to Troy, that his father is in real trouble with the law and with the music rappers, Troy finally starts to see his Dad for what he really is. He begins to see that his Dad is only using him to make millions for himself. He still loves his Dad and actually decides to help the FBI, so his Dad won't go to jail for a long period of time. Troy takes a big risk by going to the rappers houses to try and plant a listening device, so the FBI can hear the illegal deals that are going on at the rapper's house. As the FBI tries to capture the rappers and Drew, all of them escape capture. After escaping capture, Drew arranges to meet with Troy and the two have a chance to talk one last time. Drew tells Troy how sorry he is that things worked out the way they did and that he does love him. When Drew jumps off a bridge to the water below, he is presumed to be missing or dead, and escapes capture. At Troy's final football game of the season, he believes he glimpses his father's face in the crowd, but he can't be sure. The readers are left not knowing exactly what happens to Troy's Dad.

I enjoyed reading this book. It contained a lot of action and a lot of twists and unexpected turns. I believe that boys and girls who are interested in reading about sports and or mysteries will enjoy this book. Readers in the age range of 10-14 would enjoy this book. This would be a wonderful book to give as a birthday gift, as I could see that it could become a favorite book to read.

Recommended Titles:

Deep Zone by Tim Green

Jackie and Me by Dan Gutman

Mickey & Me by Dan Gutman