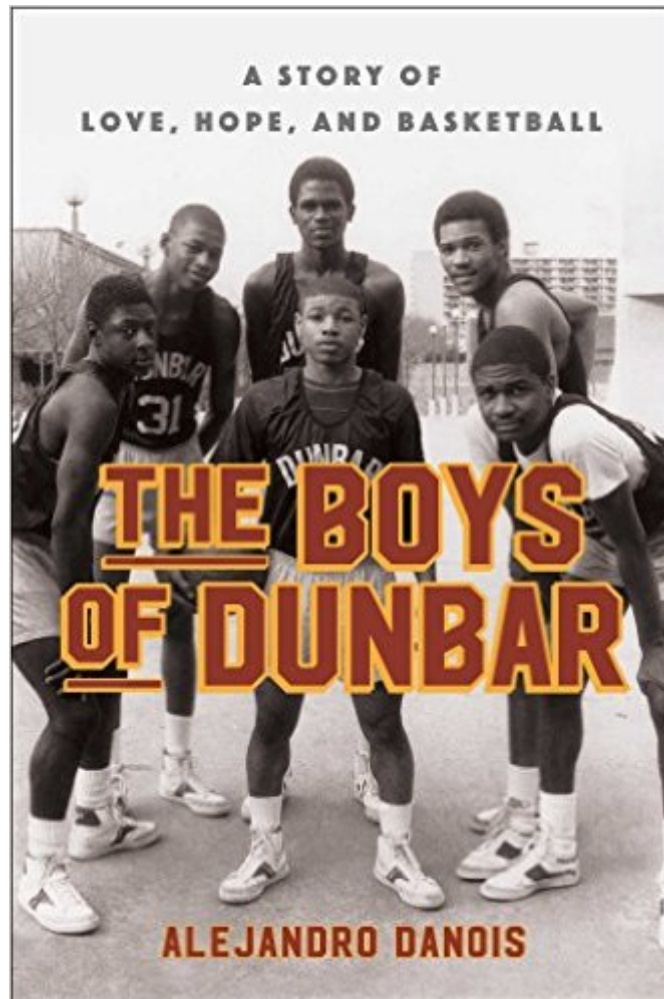


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# The Boys Of Dunbar: A Story Of Love, Hope, And Basketball



## Synopsis

The inspiring true story of a high-school basketball team that overcame desperate circumstances in 1980s Baltimore to produce four NBA players and give hope to a neighborhood and a city, thanks to a remarkable coach who relentlessly pursued perfection. As the crack epidemic swept across inner-city America in the early 1980s, the streets of Baltimore were crime ridden. For poor kids from the housing projects, the future looked bleak. But basketball could provide the quickest ticket out, an opportunity to earn a college scholarship and perhaps even play in the NBA. Dunbar High School had one of the most successful basketball programs, not only in Baltimore but in the entire country, and in the early 1980s, the Dunbar Poets were arguably the best high school team of all time. Four starting players—Muggsy Bogues, Reggie Williams, David Wingate, and Reggie Lewis—would eventually play in the NBA, an unheard-of success rate. In *The Boys of Dunbar*, Alejandro Danois takes us through the 1981-1982 season with the Poets as the team conquered all its opponents. But more than that, he takes us into the lives of these kids, and especially of Coach Bob Wade, a former NFL player from the same neighborhood who knew that the basketball court, and the lessons his players would learn there, held the key to the future. Drawing on interviews with Coach Wade, Muggsy Bogues, and others, *The Boys of Dunbar* is a remarkable testament to the power of dedication, inspiration, and teamwork. It is an ode to an extraordinary coach, a father figure who had lived the life of his players years before and who turned a dream into reality.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

THE BOYS OF DUNBAR by Alejandro Danois is the true story of one of the greatest high school

basketball teams ever, the 1981-82 Dunbar Poets from Baltimore, Maryland. Danois walks the reader through the season, highlighting most of the players, the coaches and important figures in the community, as well as many of the games. Growing up watching these players blossom into greatness, I really enjoyed this book. I watched Muggsy Bogues at Wake Forest and David Wingate and Reggie Williams at Georgetown as a kid, and growing up in Winston-Salem right by Wake Forest, I really liked Bogues and thought he was amazing to be so talented and only 5'3". It gave me hope that no matter what height, or weight, or skin color I had, I could do whatever I wanted. Danois wrote a lot about Bogues in this book, really digging deep into Bogues' psyche and how he reacted to other's perception of him and how he became a one-of-a-kind player. Danois did a masterful job of taking all of the information and stories he collected to recreate not only the games and players themselves, but to really give the reader a feeling of being a part of this amazing season with the Dunbar Poets. Danois also spends time discussing Coach Bob Wade and his balance between drill sergeant and nurturing father figure. Any basketball fan would enjoy THE BOYS OF DUNBAR and Danois' style of writing about the 1981-1982 Dunbar basketball team and all of the related components is quite engaging and uplifting. Thank you to Simon & Schuster, Alejandro Danois, and Netgalley for a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review!

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