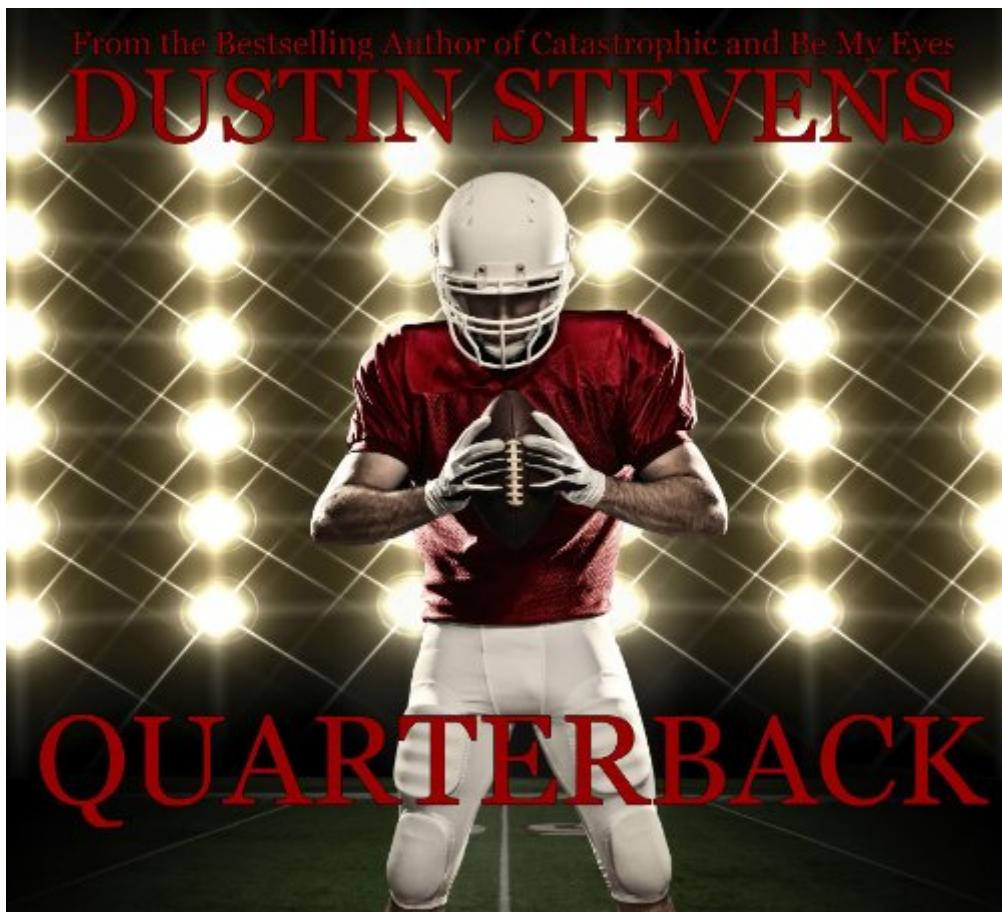


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# Quarterback



## **Synopsis**

Fifty-four minutes after Kris Hopkins was born, his father snuck into the hospital nursery and slid a miniature football into his hands. It has been there ever since, helping him through the death of his mother, through a childhood with a single parent that was always working, even getting him a college education. Now thirty-seven and the aging star quarterback for the Portland Warriors, Kris suffers his fifth concussion and for the first time is forced to take stock of the life around him. Of the son that abhors football and goes out of his way to avoid games. Of the college sweetheart and mother of his child he never did right by. Of the fancy car and posh home that all lend themselves to an image he never intended to create. More than that though, it forces him to take stock of his own mortality and trying to determine how someone that has always identified himself as a football player comes to grips with that part of his life ending.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

It took some time for me to get hooked by this book as I found the main character obnoxious. I then realized that this is what the author was capturing-he would maybe use another word to describe "The Quarterback". It got better as the story went on and pulled me into the story and I felt some

compassion for the character. I would have liked to explore the injury more and see how his choices after his injury impacted his life. All in all, a good read.

While I more or less enjoy the stories of Dustin Stevens, I am ready to speak out against the overuse of some of his phrases. The characters in his stories, both "good" and "bad" guys, seem to constantly push breaths out through their nose anytime they are thinking or upset or challenged. If I try "pushing" air out of my nose I need to run get a tissue or feel light-headed. Also, they "twist at the neck" or "twist at the waist." Why don't they just "turn" like most people? And my final beef is his use of the word "smirk." To me this has a negative connotation, like a smart-aleck or jerk, but yet when I read the context, it's usually not the case. But yet, every character in every story smirks, and some of them smirk on nearly every page. Well, I smirked when I wrote that as an exaggeration. There are other words for a "slight smile" or a "half" smile. As for this particular story, it wasn't bad, and I was surprised by the ending, which is always a good thing. But the story line didn't really build to the climax as it could have. The preview didn't really fit, in my opinion, because it wasn't about the quarterback finding a life outside of football as it claimed. A couple of pizzas and tickets do not an attempt make. The parts about his fans and their reactions rang true. I thought it was a little trite for him to hook up with the doc just like that. How does a guy acting like a jerk and a cold fish end up in bed nearly immediately? Not a bad story, but not great either. But I think Stevens has potential - I will give him another try.

What I like most about this book is the fact that this author didn't solely focus on sports, but gave the readers several perspectives of the life of a sports player. This book is exceptionally readable. I never felt lost or like I couldn't follow what the author was writing about. I've always had a curiosity about the lives of popular football players and this book helped to solve the mystery surrounding them. Sometimes we tend to look at the lives of sports players as if they're living a fairy tale. This book proves that, that's certainly not the case. Overall this is an entertaining and informative read!

Quarterback was an amazing book. It really gives you a glimpse into the life of an athlete. From the outside looking in it would seem like they have it all, but this moving story offers an interesting look at the experience of being a football player. The characters were very real and engaging. The main character, Kris, has to deal with an injury that changes everything. This was a great story that goes beyond the field, it is a story of triumph. Highly entertaining!

I am a female senior citizen whose favorite sport is not football. Having said that, I need to mention that I enjoyed this book. It was a gift from the author and I felt obligated to read it in its entirety. Of course it was about football, with insight into a star quarterback's mind, goals and failures. It was well written with only a few grammatical/spelling errors and I would recommend it to friends and family; but I honestly feel it would be of interest to a male reader.

An absorbing story. The life of this quarterback was just beginning to take a turn. Faced with major life changing decisions, the main character faces quite a challenge. Disappointed the book seemed to end too quickly.

What a subject to tackle! How many pro football fans conceptualize their favorite players in any other dimension except their play? Mr. Stevens book was a good effort but a bit lacking in the background of his protagonist. I suppose we can piece together the drive by his father to create the game player that is his son. The story was a great condemnation on pro football of using these athletes in a manner that only promulgates the pro sport, and ignoring any other aspect of their lives, ambition, and personality. It was with regret that in the end, the protagonist was unable to shake the "Quarterback" persona and move into viable life after football. I don't consider this as one of Mr. Stevens best efforts, but it was entertaining and enlightening.

Dustin Stevens is one of my favorite authors. This book was different than some of his others. The character of Kris Hooper touched close to home. When we are children, people ask us what we want to be when we grow up. When we are in college, people ask us what career we are choosing. When we are finally into our middle years, people ask what we do for a living. Then all of the sudden, it's over and you can't really say who you are except old. That is Kris's dilemma.

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