



# Baseball in April and Other Stories

By Gary Soto

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Awards: ALA Best Book for Young Adults, Booklist Editors' Choice, Horn Book Fanfare Selection, Judy Lopez Memorial Honor Book, Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award, John and Patricia Beatty Award

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## Baseball in April and Other Stories By Gary Soto Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #47374 in Books
- Brand: Sandpiper
- Published on: 2000-04-01
- Released on: 2000-04-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.63" h x .33" w x 5.13" l, .32 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 128 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Poet Soto ( *A Fire in My Hands* ) has written 11 contemporary short stories set in the poorer districts of central California. Sprinkled with Spanish expressions and phrases, the collection has a distinct Latino flavor, yet the conflicts and feelings expressed are universal. Whether conveying the joy of receiving a new doll, anxiety over Little League tryouts or the desire to stand above the crowd, Soto's writing is honest and moving. Although the narrative's subtle quality may not appeal to all readers, most will recognize truths revealed through everyday events and will appreciate Soto's ability to crystallize a moment. Ages 10-up. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From School Library Journal

Grade 4-7-- Insightful about the characteristics of early adolescents, Soto tells 11 short stories about everyday problems of growing up. Latinos in central California are the focus of the stories, but the events are typical of young teens anywhere in the United States. The main characters try out for Little League teams, take karate lessons, try to get the attention of the opposite sex, and are embarrassed by their grandparents' behavior. These day-to-day events reveal the sensitivity, humor, and vulnerability of today's young people. The descriptions and dialogue are used to advantage, helping to create and sustain the mood. A glossary of Spanish terms is included. Young readers should easily identify with the situations, emotions, and outcomes presented in these fine short stories. --Janice C. Hayes, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"Gary Soto is an astute observer of the desires, fears, and foibles of children and teenagers going about the business of daily living. In these eleven vignettes featuring Mexican American families, the character portrayals are gentle; the tone is quiet and somewhat bittersweet; and respect for family is a consistent value. This illumination of the everyday will strike chords of recognition in readers of all ages." -- *The Horn Book*

"[Soto's] sensitivity to young people's concerns and his ability to portray the world as it is perceived by children is nothing less than remarkable." — *Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"A fine collection of stories that offers a different cultural perspective about feelings common to all teenagers. Soto writes well and with tremendous insight into the process of growing up." — *The Boston Globe*

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Todd Jacobs:**

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makes you a lot more confidence because you can know every thing by the book. So , let us make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

**Nathan Weaver:**

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**Vincent Humphreys:**

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