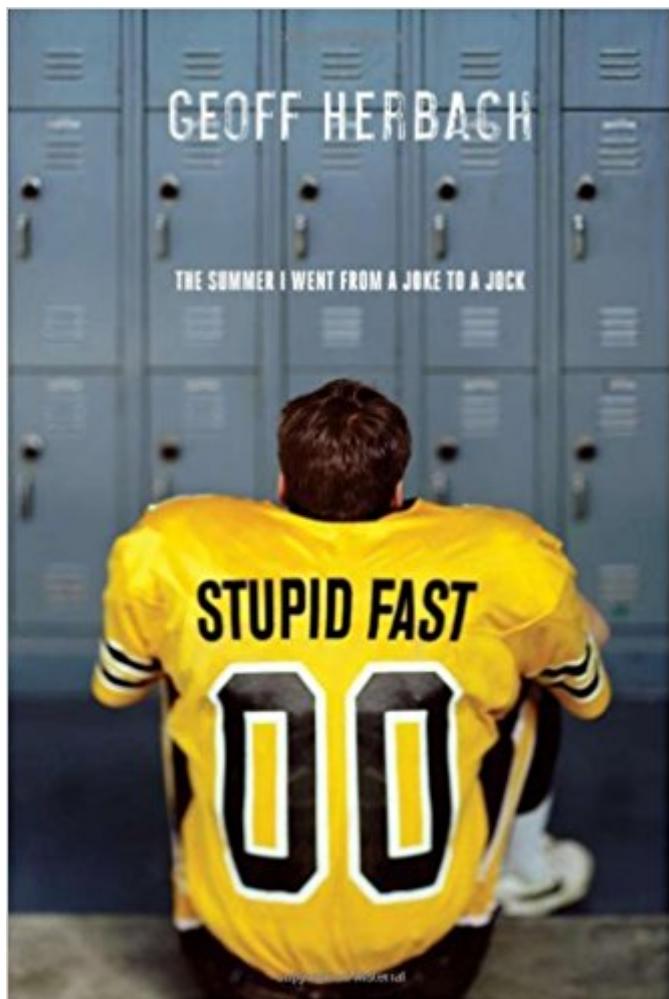


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# Stupid Fast (Felton Reinstein Trilogy)



## **Synopsis**

Praise for Stupid Fast "A rare mix of raw honesty and hilarity. Stupid Fast is Stupid Good!" -Peter Bognanni, author of The House of Tomorrow! AM NOT STUPID FUNNY.I AM STUPID FAST.My name is Felton Reinstein, which is not a fast name. But last November, my voice finally dropped and I grew all this hair and then I got stupid fast. Fast like a donkey. Zing!Now they want me, the guy they used to call Squirrel Nut, to try out for the football team. With the jocks. But will that fix my mom? Make my brother stop dressing like a pirate? Most important, will it get me girls-especially Aleah? So I train. And I run. And I sneak off to Aleah's house in the night. But deep down I know I can't run forever. And I wonder what will happen when I finally have to stop.

## **Book Information**

Series: Felton Reinstein trilogy (Book 1)

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 76 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #90,888 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Football #64 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Bullying #97 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > New Experiences

## **Customer Reviews**

"Surprises abound in this future youth classic..." --VOYA, June 2011 "It's rare to gain access to a male teen's thoughts at his most vulnerable..."--Shelf Awareness "Young readers looking for a genuinely memorable first-person narrator...should really catch up to Stupid Fast..." -A Minneapolis Star Tribune"...one of my freshmen boys asked to read my ARC. I had to say yes because he's one of my reluctant readers. He isn't reluctant anymore! He tore through this book and was so proud when he gave it back to me; he finished the book and wanted to read another. As a teacher or librarian, does it get any better than that?!If you want to read something fantastically funny, pick up Stupid Fast. If you want to read something honest and refreshing, pick up Stupid Fast. I can't

recommend this debut novel enough. Geoff Herbach has really impressed me and I CAN'T WAIT to read more of his work!" - *YA Love*" In this struggling and often clueless teen, Herbach has created an endearing character coming to terms with his past and present in a small, well-defined Wisconsin town." - *Booklist*" Herback is at this peak limning the confusion and frustration of a young man who no longer recognizes his own body, and Felton's self-deprecation take on his newly awarded A-list status is funny and compelling." - *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*"This story has a little bit of everything: the challenges of growing up, the issues surrounding interracial romance, navigating tough class issues, and a narrator who is one of the most real, honest, and still funny male voices to come around in a while." - *Yalsa*"*STUPID FAST* is a great addition to a genre that is lacking in stories based around a main male teenage character." - *An Avid Reader's Musings*"Geoff Herbach does a nice job of getting into Felton's mind and presenting his thoughts in a realistic tone." - *Reading Vacation*"Felton Reinstein is one of my favorite male protagonists of the year." - *Happy Nappy Bookseller*"*Stupid Fast* is Geoff's debut novel and I can say this is the most pleasant surprise so far this year!" - *Cari's Book Blog*"I fully admit that I devoured this book in one complete sitting. The mixture of serious emotions, life changing discoveries, and all out humor, made *Stupid Fast* a book that I simply couldn't set down." - *Hopelessly Devoted Bibliophile* "Delving straight into the teenage boy mind and hitting on topics both funny and hefty, *Stupid Fast* hits right into the struggles of a teenage guy from first love to finding himself to dealing with a quirky family in a great way. With a main character that truly is "average," a jerk at times and a total sweetheart at others, confused and awkward but then confidant and sure, this one is engaging and real. Through rambling in voice at times, and most definitely very boy in a way that could be a turn off to some female readers, the story is well written and well developed, providing a solid debut." - *A Good Addiction*"In the end Fenton's sarcasm, anxiety, self-doubt, thoughtfulness, and compassion carry the day and perfectly capture the voice of his generation." - *School Library Journal*"Reading Felton's thoughts, feelings, fears, and frustrations are sometimes funny as well as touching, revealing his gentle and sensitive side amidst the stupid. This title provides a great read for all teen and adult readers. I loved this! It almost moved me to tears as it provides insight into the mind of an adolescent." - *Library Media Connection* (starred review)"Once I got into it, I loved *Stupid Fast*. Felton is a great character - he's just so likeable! He's awkward in a fun way, and his comments and way of seeing things are hilarious. He's complex and dynamic, and there's just so much to him, lots of which I probably didn't even get reading *Stupid Fast* for the first time. His voice is honest, original and realistic, and it felt like he was talking to me throughout the entire book. The secondary characters are fully-developed; I could imagine everyone easily - Aleah, Jerri, Andrew, the jocks, all of the characters! I also loved

the dynamic and realistic relationships between Felton and all the other characters. Aleah and Felton are adorable together! Stupid Fast reminded me of a John Green book. I don't mean the story, because that's really different from John Green's books - I just mean the style and the feel of the book. Stupid Fast conveys so many emotions - it's sad and funny and heartwarming and hopeful and honest and raw, all at the same time, just like John Green's books. You're crying one minute, and the next minute you're laughing. That's probably what I enjoyed most about this book - I love when a book can really make you feel something, both good and bad. This is a great read! Don't be discouraged by the football-topic - I'm not big on sports, but I really enjoyed Stupid Fast. Felton is such a likeable main character, and Stupid Fast is emotional and hilarious at the same time, reminding me of a John Green book. I definitely recommend it!" - Paperback Treasures "I really liked the elements in this book. A broken home, a main character growing up faster than he ever thought he would. So much goes on in the book that it is hard to not stop reading. A great, young, fresh voice, Felton is the American boy dealing with an average American life. Nothing is perfect but of course he is Stupid Fast." - Books With Bite "So, without giving anything away, I'll just say: it has a great character voice, Pete Hautmanesque story-telling, and a deft recognition of human complexity." - Daughter Number Three "Whip-smart and painfully self-aware, "Stupid Fast" is a funny and agonizing glimpse into the teenage brain. . . . In that gap between being big and being grown-up lies a lot of the best young-adult fiction, including Geoff Herbach's painfully funny debut, "Stupid Fast." "Young readers looking for a genuinely memorable first-person narrator -- in the vein of Sherman Alexie's "Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" or Pete Hautman's "Godless" -- should really catch up to "Stupid Fast" this summer." - The Star Tribune "This is what I call a "smart guy-book". When you guys are ready to move away from fantasy into realistic fiction about teenage guy issues, Stupid Fast is one of the books you will have to turn to." - Beyond The Middle "'a novel that will give much food for thought.' Blogger Dr.L, LS 5385 Blog" - LS 5385 Blog

Geoff Herbach is a novelist, but he also loves writing for performance. He co-created PowderKeg Live! and is also the co-founder of The Lit 6 Project, a group dedicated to bringing literary storytelling to broader audiences. He teaches creative writing at Minnesota State University-Mankato. Visit [geoffherbach.com](http://geoffherbach.com)

If you are a kid between the ages of 12 and 17 and love to read sports books, I would highly recommend this as one of the next ones you should pick up and dive into. The book Stupid Fast by Geoff Herbach tells the story of a 15 year old kid named Felton Reinstein who throughout his year at

school finds his special talent, the fact that he is stupid fast. Although Felton hasn't lived an easy or very happy life he finds joy in just running fast. His child hood was full of good memories until one day when Felton was around 5 and he walked into the garage to find that his dad had hung himself. Ever since that incident he has had social anxiety and hasn't had many friends. That is one big set back in his life that has made him clash heads with his younger brother Andrew and his mother Jerry. Felton finds a break in his life that brings him out of the dark. Football. He makes the football team and starts lifting weights and suddenly people start to notice him and he begins to make friends, which is just what he needed in the situation he was stuck in. The theme of this book is that in your life you are going to have obstacles and you will have to overcome. This is brought up many times throughout the book and is heavily shown. For example he had really one friend and that friend left for the summer so who was there to hangout with? He overcame this by joining football and going to weights and talking to new people. The book is a total of 311 pages and can be a pretty quick read. Next time your hungry for a good book about sports, emotions, or problems this is definitely a book you should read.

This book is incredible. The characters are amazing. The plot was amazing. This is such a good story about family and heartbreak and mental health. It was also funny! I laughed so much. I also cried, but I definitely laughed. Felton was one of the most real teenage boys I've read from. I think that Herbach created one of the most successful characters I've read in a long time. The supporting cast of characters was great too. I have never had my heart broken in the way that Andrew broke it. Andrew made the story take a new level of seriousness. He created a level of darkness that I enjoyed. While I loved the characters, I really loved the story. This was a real story about growing up and about family. But it's also a story about mental health and how it can build and destroy things. I think this story was important. The way the two brothers were coping with this situation they were put in was so interesting! The way Andrew stood up to it and Felton ran away from it said a lot about where they were in maturity. 13 and 16 are so different and Herbach portrayed their stages of life with such perfection. I give this book all the stars. I recommend it to anyone. Read it! It's good!

Geoff Herbach's Felton Reinstein is one incredible character. His voice is funny, sweet, confused and just plain nice but life has not been easy for Felton and his family. At the age of five, Felton finds his father's body after he hung himself. Felton grows up insecure with some bad advice from his mother, doctors, and not having a father figure. The summer that his best friend unexpectedly leaves to take care of his grandmother; everything goes crazy- Felton's mom agrees that he will

take over his best friend's paper route; he shoots up inch by inch, eats everything in sight, starts lifting weights for football, and running. Felton meets Aleah Jennings when he drops a newspaper off at his best friend's house. Aleah is a superb piano player and likes Felton. Felton begins seeing Aleah daily and they definitely have a romantic, sweet connection. But then his mother starts acting strange, cursing, drinking, and as a final threat she stops being a mother to Felton and his little brother, Andrew. Felton doesn't want to burden anyone with his family problems and his father's suicide is always a specter that keeps chipping away at his mother, brother, and Felton. I laughed at Felton's thoughts and actions but I really felt for Felton when his family was falling apart; he didn't know what to do, how to act and he withdrew by missing lifting, practices, not seeing his friends or Aleah. What will happen to Felton is worth all the drama and laughs. Herbach's book is a recommended read, I can't wait to see what my students think, since this is a Reading Olympic book selection.

My 13 yr old son enjoyed the book and you know for a teenager to read anything it takes an act of God or it's for a grade!!!

I brought Stupid Fast home from Book Expo America in 2011 for Steve to read because it seemed like something he would like. Sports, male protag, male author. He read it basically in one sitting, laughing out loud quite a few times, and wrote a good review for it. I stuck it on my own shelf to read later because I was intrigued. This book is a win! The humor is something that I found funny, too - I even read a few passages out loud to Steve after I laughed about them, which is kind of ridiculous because he had already read the book, so he just politely nodded as I was laughing and laughing. This mainly happened when Felton and his brother were bantering back and forth, but really, Felton has a great voice. What brings this to a full five star book for me is that it's not only a funny book, but it also deals with some bigger issues. There were times I was laughing on one page and feeling my heart squeeze for Felton and his brother on the next. The things they have to deal with are serious, so if the humor doesn't keep you reading, the serious parts of their lives will. I read the second half of the book in one sitting because I had to know how it was all resolved. For those afraid that it will be tons of sports talk-no worries there. There is a general sports tone, sure, but it's not full of sports scenes and vocabulary. There is just enough to satisfy someone who likes sports and little enough for someone who doesn't like sports to enjoy it, too. I loved Stupid Fast. I am pretty excited to read the companion that just released, Nothing Special!

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