



Lucky Strike

By Bobbie Pyron

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Nate Harlow would love to be lucky, just once!

He'd like to win a prize, get picked first, call a coin toss right, even! But his best friend, Genesis Beam (aka Gen), believes in science and logic, and she doesn't think for one second that there's such a thing as luck, good or bad. She doesn't care what names the other kids call them. She cares about being right, about saving the turtles of Paradise Beach, and she cares about Nate.

Then, on his birthday, at the Goofy Golf mini-golf course, Nate is struck by lightning -- and survives! Suddenly baseballs are drawn to his bat-popular kids want HIM on their side. It seems the whole town of Paradise Beach thinks Nate has the magic touch.

But is there room for Gen in Nate's lucky new world?

Lucky Strike tells the unforgettable story of two vulnerable outsiders and what luck is really all about.

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Lucky Strike By Bobbie Pyron Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Wherever Nate Harlow goes, bad luck seems to follow. He has never even won a coin toss, so it comes as no surprise to many residents of Paradise Beach that it is Nate who gets struck by lightning out of the literal blue on his 11th birthday while playing mini-golf with his friend Genesis Beam. What does come as a big surprise is that Nate's luck seems to change drastically after the strike. All of a sudden, he is winning. Everything. Nate has to decide how he is going to handle this change—he is now surrounded by friends and opportunities whereas before it was only him and Genesis sticking together. Will she stay by Nate's side while he finds his feet, and, more importantly, will he support her when she needs it most? This well-told story of growth, friendship, and small-town life hits all the right notes. The quirkiness of the characters and the town never goes too far, and there is an overall cozy feeling to the book. Genesis's dad is the preacher at The Church of the One True Redeemer and Everlasting Light, but she is a scientist through and through, which adds complexity to the text, including musings on destiny, fate, probability, and weather. Fans of Susan Patron's *Higher Power of Lucky* (S. & S., 2006), Sheila Turnage's *Three Times Lucky* (Dial, 2012), and Ingrid Law's *Savvy* (2008; both, Dial) will find something new for their to-read shelves.—Stacy Dillon, LREI, New York City

Review

Praise for *Lucky Strike*:

"A not-to-be missed, begs-to-be-read-aloud, once-in-a-blue-moon book." -- Katherine Applegate, author of Newbery Medal winner *The One and Only Ivan*

"If only every summer could be sprinkled with this kind of magic... This is a lovely storm of a story." -- Natalie Lloyd, author of *A Snicker of Magic*

"If you're holding *Lucky Strike*, consider yourself lucky. Open it and read immediately. If you aren't holding it, run now and do so. Open it and read immediately. You will consider yourself lucky. Trust me." -- Barbara O'Connor, author of *How to Steal A Dog*

"Characters leap off the pages, adding rich depth to an already satisfying tale... Amusing, endearing and sometimes even electrifying." -- *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"This well-told story of growth, friendship, and small-town life hits all the right notes." -- *School Library Journal*, starred review

"A dramatic and sweetly poignant story, enlivened by a dash of magical realism." -- *Publishers Weekly*

"Filled with Southern charm, a bit of magic, and a cast of quirky characters." -- *Voice of Youth Advocates*

Praise for *The Dogs of Winter*:

A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Children's Book of 2012

"Compelling and highly original fiction... An absorbing account." -- *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, starred review

"Terrifying, life-affirming and memorable." -- *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"Absorbing...The many vivid details of street life and the convincing portrayals of even minor characters help bring the story to life. A source bibliography is appended. Written with compassion as well as grim, sometimes brutal realism, this novel offers a riveting story as well as material for reflection and discussion."
-- *Booklist*, starred review

"Well-crafted sentences, lively dialogue, and a remarkable story line combine for an absorbing adventure tale that young readers will find irresistible." -- *Horn Book*

"Pyron delivers a reflective, hard-hitting story about the bond between child and dog...The book's emotional impact is immense." -- *Publishers Weekly*

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Rush:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important take action, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a book. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled *Lucky Strike*. Try to make the book *Lucky Strike* as your pal. It means that it can to get your friend when you truly feel alone and beside that course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let us make new experience and knowledge with this book.

Carroll Boggess:

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Tammy Campbell:

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Louis Ono:

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