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## Meet the Author of Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders

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### Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday, June 15th, 2016

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** North Mankato Police Annex

**Admission:** FREE

### Event Sponsorship



Sponsored by MSU, Mankato Library Services and the Department of English in partnership with North Mankato Taylor Library.



### About Geoff Herbach



#### Geoff Herbach's Homepage

Geoff Herbach is the author of the award winning Stupid Fast YA series as well as *Fat Boy vs the Cheerleaders*. He has received the 2011 Cybils Award for best YA novel, the Minnesota Book Award, as well as selected for the Junior Library Guild, listed among the year's best by the American Library Association, the American Booksellers Association and many state library associations. In the past, he wrote the literary novel, *The Miracle Letters of T. Rimberg*, produced radio comedy shows and toured rock clubs telling weird stories. Geoff teaches creative writing at Minnesota State, Mankato. He lives in a log cabin with a tall wife.

[Additional Information](#)

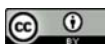
[Book Snob Interview](#)

[Hamline University Profile](#)

[Zen on the gridiron \(MPR\)](#)

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## About the Book



From Geoff Herbach, the award-winning young adult author, comes a tale that will resonate with fat kids, nerds, dorks, gamers, geeks and teen outcasts of all kinds—an authentically funny story for anyone who has suffered from teasing and bullying at the hands of the high school social hierarchy. And decided to do something about it.

Join a cast of quirky misfits as fat boy Gabe, aka Chunk, goes up against the high school cheerleading team in a battle over control of the school's soda machine. A marching band geek who drowns his dysfunctional family woes in a voracious soda habit, Gabe relishes his role as class clown, fending off harassment from students and teachers with his own brand of irreverent, self-deprecating humor. But when the cheerleading team takes over the funds previously collected to finance the marching band, Gabe will not stand for it. Something must be done.

It's geeks versus jocks in an epic battle of the beverages!

## Read Excerpts from the Book

## Read the beginning chapters of the book

## Book Talks and Interpretative Presentation

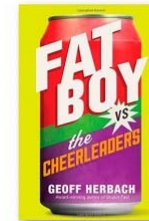
## Book Talks

Teen BookTalk (Pikes Peak Library District, Penrose Library, Pikes Peak, CO)

7th Grade Book Talk (Warriors Read)

## Humorous Interpretation

Taren Pfitzer, Sioux Falls Lincoln High School (SD), National Speech and Debate Tournament (Dec. 15, 2015)



#### Reviews of the Book



##### Online Reviews

[goodreads](#)

[Guys Lit Wire](#)

[teenreads](#)

##### Journal Reviews

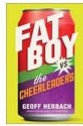
[Kirkus](#)

[Publishers Weekly](#)

#### Check Out the Book and Audiobook

##### North Mankato Taylor Library

###### Print Book



**Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders OR Gabe Johnson Takes Over** by Geoff Herbach

Call Number: Young Adult Herbach

ISBN: 9781402291418, 9781492608653

Publication Date: 2014-05-06, 2015-04-07

##### Memorial Library, Minnesota State University, Mankato

###### Print Book



**Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders** by Geoff Herbach

Call Number: ERC Juvenile Collection--Lower Level PZ7.H417 Fat 2014

ISBN: 9781402291418

Publication Date: 2014-05-06



**Gabe Johnson Takes Over** by Geoff Herbach

Call Number: ERC Juvenile Collection--Lower Level PZ7.H417 Gab 2015

ISBN: 9781492608653

Publication Date: 2015-04-07

###### Audiobook



**Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders** by Geoff Herbach; Nick Podehl (Read by)

Call Number: ERC Audiobook Collection--Lower Level PZ7.H417 Fat 2014ab

ISBN: 9781480533233

Publication Date: 2014-05-06

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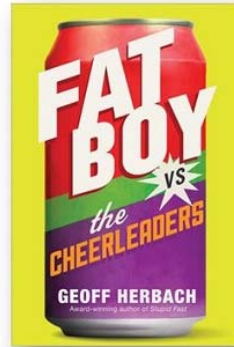
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### Meet the Author of Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders/Gabe Johnson Takes Over--Geoff Herbach



Hardcover Title



Paperback Title



Geoff Herbach

Enter the world of Gabe Johnson, otherwise known as Chunk, as he becomes embroiled in a battle with the school cheerleaders over control of the school's pop machine. Proceeds from the pop machine used to fund the school band have been reallocated to support the cheerleading dance team. Gabe becomes furious over this turn of events and decides to take action. Come join the fun and hear the author's take on this hilarious and touching story.

Meet the author of *Fat Boy vs. the Cheerleaders* on **Wednesday, June 15th, 2016, 6:30 p.m.**, at the **North Mankato Police Annex** in the **Community Room**.

Geoff Herbach is the author of a number of young adult books among which include the popular titles *Stupid Fast*, *Nothing Special*, and *I'm With Stupid*. He has received recognition for his writing from the American Book Association, American Library Association, International Literacy Association, Junior Library Guild, Young Adult Library Services Association, as well as being the recipient of the 2011 Cybils Award for best young adult novel and 2013 Minnesota Book Award for Young People's Literature. His most recent book is *Anything You Want*.

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### Overview



After welcoming attendees, brief introductions will be made. The author will then read a passage of his choosing from the book. This will be followed by a few questions on the writing process, as well as questions about the book. The discussion will conclude with questions about future books and activities.

After the event, the author will be available to sign books and posters. Drawings for door prizes will also be held.

### Questions About the Writing Process

1. How long did it take you to write the book and then how much longer did it take to get published?
  2. What is your preferred routine for writing?
    - Do you sit down at a desk to write for a period of time or do you wait until the mood strikes you?
    - Do you have a designated area for writing?
    - Do you write in longhand or on a computer or laptop?
    - What research do you usually conduct either before or during the writing process?
  3. What inspired you to write young adult fiction?
    - What author or authors serve as a source of inspiration for you?
  4. What aspect of writing is the most challenging for you?
- Please note the audience will be encouraged to ask follow-up questions, as well as any other questions they may have.


**Questions About the Book**

1. What research did you do before and/or during the process of writing the story?
  2. Where did the character Gabe come from? How did he arrive? Where is Gabe today?
  3. How did you develop and hone the voices of the other main characters in the story?
  4. How did you choose the beginning and end of the story?
  5. Why was the title of the book changed for the paperback edition?
  6. What's your favorite thing about the book?
  7. Is there anything you'd like to change about the book?
  8. If you had to select a playlist to accompany the book, what would be some of the songs?
- Please note the audience will be encouraged to ask follow-up questions, as well as any other questions they may have.

**Questions About Future Books**

1. You recently had a book published entitled *Anything You Want* about teenage pregnancy, dysfunctional families, and endless optimism as viewed through the eyes of a young adolescent boy. Exploring the topics of teen pregnancy and parental death, why did you choose to write about these two topics in the same book?
2. How is the main character of *Anything You Want*, Taco, different from the main characters in your other books?
3. Have you perceived any differences between how teen and adult readers approach your books?
4. What do you enjoy most about meeting fans and readers of your books?
5. What's next?

Please note the audience will be encouraged to ask follow-up questions, as well as any other questions they may have.

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