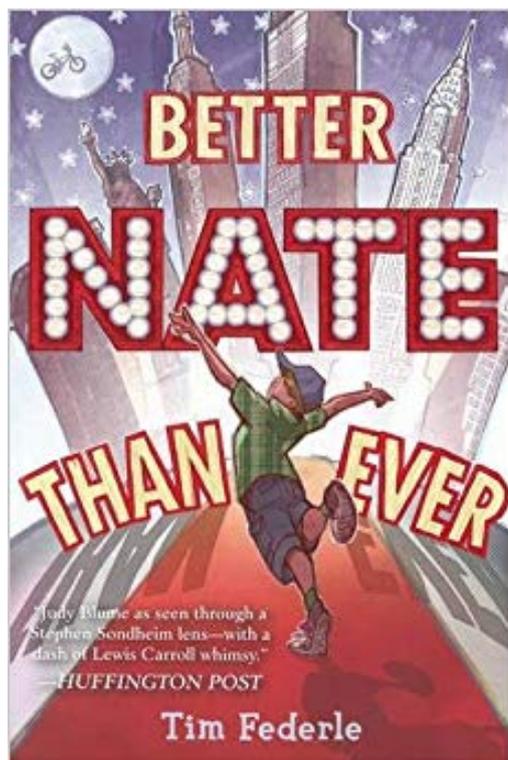


Better Nate Than Ever by Tim Federle



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“The Nate series by Tim Federle is a wonderful evocation of what it’s like to be a theater kid. Highly recommended.” —Lin-Manuel Miranda, star and creator of the musical, *Hamilton* A *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year A *Slate* Favorite Book of the Year A small-town boy hops a bus to New York City to crash an audition for *E.T.: The Musical* in this winning middle grade novel that *The New York Times* called “inspired and inspiring.” Nate Foster has big dreams. His whole life, he’s wanted to star in a Broadway show. (Heck, he’d settle for *seeing* a Broadway show.) But how is Nate supposed to make his dreams come true when he’s stuck in Jankburg, Pennsylvania, where no one (except his best pal Libby) appreciates a good show tune? With Libby’s help, Nate plans a daring overnight escape to New York. There’s an open casting call for *E.T.: The Musical*, and Nate knows this could be the difference between small-town blues and big-time stardom. Tim Federle’s “hilarious and heartwarming debut novel” (*Publishers Weekly*) is full of broken curfews, second chances, and the adventure of growing up—because sometimes you have to get four hundred miles from your backyard to finally feel at home.



Reviews of the **Better Nate Than Ever** by Tim Federle

Vathennece

Junior high students and actors of all ages will find this exciting to read. Written in very real language for the junior high student, it also reflects for actors the reality of what we call "cattle calls"; hundreds of people auditioning for a few parts. This courage of Nate in leaving his comfort zone to land an acting job, albeit a little dangerous in today's world, shows that sometimes the best sacrifice gains nothing, but the continued desire to achieve goals requires sacrifice and could just be that one thing needed to obtain one's goals. The corroboration with another friend added to the interesting link between friendship, teamwork and achievement.

Quendant

A sublime joy! Tim Federle has created a character you want to stay with for book after book. The sequel, "5,6,7, Nate" is terrific as well. Wonderful writing, joyful, engaging. The story is moving is a delight and one to cherish whether you're gay or straight! Thank you Tim!!!

KiddenDan

This book is hilarious fun! I pre-ordered it for my 6th grade son, who developed a love of musical theater in the last year. When it came this week, I flipped to the author bio, and burst out laughing: "Tim Federle is the author of over 700 emails..." I started reading the book, and realized last night that I had to stop since it was 1 am.

Nate is 13, and tormented in school in his home town near Pittsburgh. His one best friend is Libby and she shares his love of musical theater. He embarks on a trip to New York City by himself to audition for E.T. the Musical. I think Federle gets the tone of middle school aged kids exactly right: Whip-smart funny, but also naive and unsure of themselves. I absolutely loved all of Nate's wide-eyed observations about being in New York City for the first time. He's amazed to find Appleby's right next to the bus station! And a cupcake shop on every street.

The author has appeared in several Broadway shows and was the associate choreographer on Billy Elliot on Broadway working with all the children in the show. So he knows the subject matter, and he knows theater kids.

This book is just excellent, and I cannot recommend it highly enough. I'm hoping we get a sequel for further adventures of Nate!

Gashakar

What a wonderful story. I heard such good things about this book, I had to read it, even though I am very well past my tween (no comment). The dialog, both among the characters and in Nate's mind, is very very witty. It is the triumph of Nate's will over adversity that really warmed my heart. Don't be afraid to read a book about a remarkable 13 year old boy.

Der Bat

I heard about this book on a theatrical podcast I believe so thought I'd give it a shot. I am so glad I did. This book is beyond charming. It's funny and sings to my soul as an actor. It's like no adventure I ever had myself, but damn, I wish I could be Nate, The characters are well written, the story itself is twisty and satisfying. I highly recommend this book!

Gold as Heart

My 9 yo daughter can only be described as a voracious reader. She carries multiple books with her everywhere she goes. I like to find her books with diverse characters and themes that she can relate to. She just received this book and has dug right in! She loves the "theatre kid" story line and is loving the character development. Definitely a great read for her and I will be buying the other books in the series!

Brariel

My son had to read this for summer reading so we got the Kindle version! Excellent book! He enjoyed it and so did I. Fun book for grade school and middle school readers!

An easy, enjoyable read that will make you remember the wonders (and some of the bummers) of childhood. Looking forward to reading more of this author!

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