



## Shakespeare Bats Cleanup

By Ron Koertge

Candlewick. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 128 pages. Dimensions: 7.5in. x 5.1in. x 0.2in. A straight-talking, fourteen-year-old first baseman, benched by mono, decides to take a swing at writing poetry in Ron Koertges clever, compelling novel written in free verse. Their pitcher walks our leadoff man. Greg moves him up to second with a perfect sacrifice. Fabian loops one into right. Im up. Two on, one out. Im the cleanup man. My job is to bring these guys home. MVP Kevin Boland gets the news that he has mono and wont be seeing a baseball field for a while, and he suddenly finds himself scrawling a poem down the middle of a page in his journal. To get some help, he cops a poetry book from his dads den. Before Kevin knows it, hes writing in verse about stuff like, Will his jock friends give up on him Whats the deal with girlfriends Surprisingly enough, after his health improves, he keeps on writing - about the smart-talking Latina girl who thinks poets are cool, even about his mother, whose death is a still-tender loss for which he finally finds the words. Written in free verse with examples of several poetic forms...

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