

## 11 & 12 Year Old Authors Combine Their Passion for Basketball & Bullying Prevention with New Book

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Elijah and Isaiah Smith are brothers and straight A, middle school students living in New York State.

RENSSELAER, NY (November 15, 2017) - Follow Your Dreams Publishing is thrilled to publish 11 and 12 year old brothers Elijah and Isaiah Smith's debut children's book, Pick Me, Pick Me! Based on a true-life story, Pick Me, Pick Me! was written by the Smith Brothers to address the seriousness of bullying in a kid friendly way. Although they are both talented basketball players, both brothers admit they have at times experienced bullying due to their height. The young authors felt there were too few books available that effectively told their story, so they were inspired to write their own book.

Pick Me, Pick Me! introduces readers to sixth-grader Cree, one of the shortest players on the Bull Dogs basketball team. Young readers will follow Cree as he struggles with being accepted by his teammates, learns to perfect his game, and eventually helps the Bulldogs win a championship basketball game, despite his size.

Pick Me, Pick Me! is available as a full-color paperback and is filled with fun illustrations and pictures of The Smith Brothers throughout their real life basketball journey. The book also includes a glossary of common basketball terms for those new to the sport and even a "Little Baller, Big Game" goal activity page. The Smith brothers hope their new book will encourage readers young and old to follow their dreams and reach for the stars.

To celebrate the release of Pick Me, Pick Me! The Smith Brothers will be hosting a book release party sponsored by The Rensselaer Boys and Girls Club on Saturday, November 18th from 1pm-3pm. The Rensselaer Boys and Girls Club is located at 544 Broadway in Rensselaer, NY. The young authors will be signing books that will be available for purchase as well as playing in a youth all-star basketball game alongside some of the capital districts finest young players. Admission is free.

Pick Me, Pick Me! is available in paperback format for a retail price of \$15.00. For further information or to purchase a copy of the book, visit <http://www.fydpublishing.com/books> or <https://www.facebook.com/ballingwiththesmithbrothers>

### About the Authors

Elijah and Isaiah Smith are brothers and straight A, middle school students living in New York State. While both boys are extremely talented, they have often struggled with bullying and being accepted due to their height. However, once on the basketball court their talent cannot be disputed. The brothers have collectively landed awards from most defensive player to team MVP. Although basketball is their favorite pastime, the brothers both sing, play trumpet, the French horn, piano and recorder, while also running track and have recently been scouted to play lacrosse. Now, with the help of their mom and in response to the bullying they have at times encountered, the brothers have co-authored their first children's book, Pick me, Pick me!

Media Contact:

LaDonna N. Smith

Phone no: 518 227 6263

Email: info@fydpublishing.com

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**Contact Person & Company**

Name :LaDonna N. Smith Dhar

Company : fydpublishing.com

**Contact Numbers**

Telephone No. :518 227 6263

Fax No.:

Handphone No. :518 227 6263

**Website**

Website 1 :<http://www.fydpublishing.com/books>

Website 2 :<http://www.fydpublishing.com/books>

**Address**

, RENSSELAER

New York

United States

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