



## Breakaway: Beyond the Goal

By Alex Morgan

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### Breakaway: Beyond the Goal By Alex Morgan

Get inspired to be your best—in sports and in life—with this uplifting memoir from star soccer player and Olympic gold medalist Alex Morgan that includes eight pages of full-color photos as well as book jacket that doubles as a poster!

As a talented and successful female athlete, Alex Morgan is a role model to thousands of girls who want to be their best, not just in soccer, but in other sports and in life. The story of her path to success, from playing in the 2011 Women's World Cup, to winning gold in the 2012 London Olympics, to ranking as one of the National Team's top scorers, will inspire everyone who reads it.

From her beginnings with the American Youth Soccer Organization to her key role in the 2015 Women's World Cup, Alex shares the details that made her who she is today: a fantastic role model and athlete who proudly rocks a pink headband.

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## **Breakaway: Beyond the Goal** By Alex Morgan Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #13517 in Books
- Brand: Simon Schuster Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 2015-06-02
- Released on: 2015-06-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.20" w x 5.50" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 320 pages



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## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—This inspirational memoir from a soccer champion and Olympic gold medalist will appeal to sports fans and nonathletes alike. Morgan adeptly shares how she achieved her goals of becoming a renowned professional soccer player and the important lessons she learned along the way. As a young girl, she played softball, but at age eight, she realized that her dream was to play professional soccer. With her family's support, she trained with the American Youth Soccer Organization, played on her hometown's soccer club team, and joined the Olympic Development Program, as well as the under-17 and under-20 national World Cup teams. Morgan went on to accomplish her biggest achievements: playing in the World Cup and the Olympics. In addition to detailing her triumphs on the field, she also describes other elements of her life, such as a long-term long-distance relationship, the chronic sports injuries she suffered, and her strong performance at college. The writing is accessible, personal, and down-to-earth. In each chapter, Morgan provides helpful advice on fulfilling one's objectives, accepting failure, and staying positive and focused, as well as the importance of a good support network and the value of being competitive. While readers might not share her aspirations, they will appreciate her story and benefit from her counsel. **VERDICT** A great addition to memoir and sports collections in public and high school libraries.—Jess Gafkowitz, New York Public Library

### **Review**

"This inspirational memoir from a soccer champion and Olympic gold medalist will appeal to sports fans and nonathletes alike...A great addition to memoir and sports collections in public and high school libraries." (*School Library Journal*)

### **About the Author**

Alex Morgan became the youngest member of the US women's national soccer team in 2009 and competed in the 2011 FIFA World Cup. She was the first overall pick in the 2011 Women's Professional Soccer draft and landed a spot on the US Olympic women's soccer team in 2012. At the 2012 Summer Olympic Games, held in London, Morgan won her first Olympic medal, a gold, with the American team. In 2015, she achieved her lifelong goal of winning a World Cup trophy, in the most-watched soccer match in US history. She now plays for the Orlando Pride in Orlando, Florida.

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#### **Larry Parker:**

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**Robert Howard:**

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