

Written by Loris Lesynski Illustrated by Gerry Rasmussen

# CRAZY ABOUT SOCCER!



annick press

Toronto • New York • Vancouver



For  
Wendy Marion Cecil,  
someone who really  
*moves*

—LL

© 2012 Loris Lesynski (text)  
© 2012 Gerry Rasmussen (illustrations)  
Design & Art Direction by Loris Lesynski, Laugh Lines Design

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We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund (CBF) for our publishing activities.



Cataloging in Publication  
Lesynski, Loris

Crazy about soccer! / Loris Lesynski ; art by Gerry Rasmussen.

ISBN 978-1-55451-422-9 (bound).—ISBN 978-1-55451-421-2 (pbk.)

I. Soccer—Juvenile poetry. I. Rasmussen, Gerry, 1956-  
II. Title.

PS8573.E79C73 2012      jC811'.54      C2012-902100-8

Distributed in Canada by:  
Firefly Books Ltd.  
66 Leek Crescent  
Richmond Hill, ON  
L4B 1H1

Published in the U.S.A. by  
Annick Press (U.S.) Ltd.  
Distributed in the U.S.A. by:  
Firefly Books (U.S.) Inc.  
P.O. Box 1338, Ellicott Station  
Buffalo, NY 14205

The artwork in this book was done in pen and ink and Photoshop.  
The poems are set in Chaparral Pro. Titles are in Bryan Talbot Lower,  
with page numbers in Shake Open, both from [www.comicfonts.com](http://www.comicfonts.com).

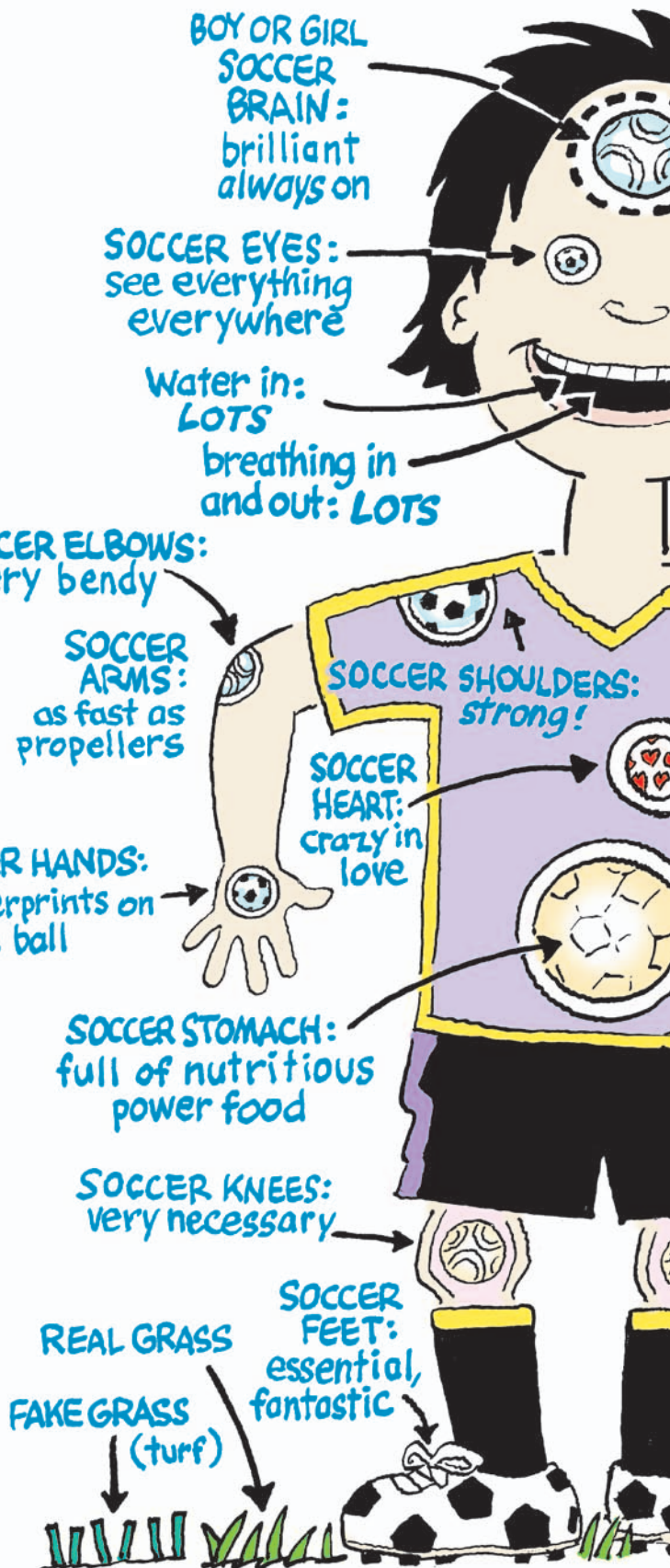
Printed in China

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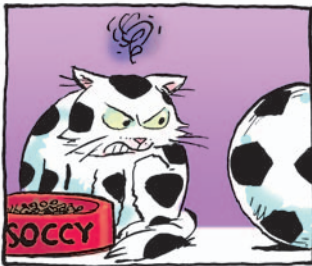
## All in the Ball

Take away the uniforms,  
take away the cleats.  
Take away the cheering crowd,  
take away the seats.

Take away the referee,  
take away the net.  
Take it all away today—  
right away—and yet—

We'll always have a game to play,  
positions for us all.  
It isn't in the extras.

The game is *in the ball*.





## Crazy About Soccer

muscles deflated  
legs like spaghetti  
cleats full of mud  
exhausted and sweaty  
sometimes a good game  
sometimes the worst  
we're tired and grimy  
and dying of thirst  
but back here tomorrow?  
*you bet*  
and we'll play  
day after day after day  
after day!

# Soccer Simply Everywhere



**ANYTHING**  
can be a net.

**ANYTHING**  
can be a ball.

**ANYONE** can  
play the game

**ANYWHERE**  
at all.





**Kick a Ball...**  
Kick a ball in Holland,  
Kick a ball in France.  
Kick a ball in Egypt  
if you ever  
get the chance.

Kick a ball in Canada,  
Kick a ball in Spain.  
Kick it from the USA  
to China and Ukraine.

Kick a ball  
around the world,  
kick it in the street.  
Kick it anywhere  
you've got  
a soccer ball  
and feet.