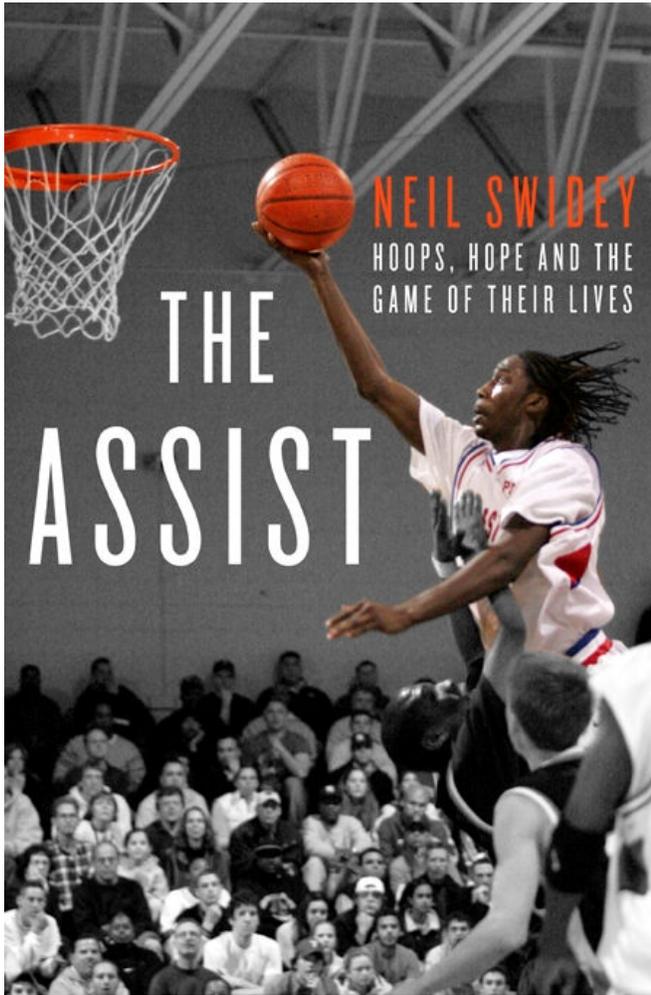


# Rave reviews for *The Assist*

Featured on **THE TODAY SHOW**  
A **BOSTON GLOBE** BESTSELLER



Neil Swidey is a staff writer for *The Boston Globe Magazine* and a winner of the National Headliner Award. His writing has been featured in the *Best American Political Writing*, *Best American Crime Reporting*, and *Best American Science Writing*.



A new book from PUBLICAFFAIRS  
**MORE INFO: [THEASSIST.NET](http://THEASSIST.NET)**

**ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY:** “There’s triumph, tragedy, and salvation in this story. Not to mention a movie. A-.”

**NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO’S BILL LITTLEFIELD:** “Neil Swidey might have started out trying to tell the tale of an exceptionally successful high school basketball team and their coach, but as he spent time with the subjects of his story, he realized that they could help him explore a much larger story. His book is about basketball, certainly, but it is also about education, race, the hypocrisy with which our games are riddled, and a collection of young men trying to figure out who they are and who they can be.”

**WASHINGTON POST:** “Indispensable to anyone interested in the art of coaching at any level. And by distracting us from the sordid, steroid-fueled headlines, Swidey reminds us why we enjoy watching sports in the first place.”

**BOOKLIST:** “Like *Hoop Dreams*, this captivating account transcends its time and place.”

**ESPN’s BILL SIMMONS:** “A must-read... I highly recommend it.” (Book selected for ESPN, SI excerpts.)

**PUBLISHERS WEEKLY:** Swidey “builds narrative momentum and details his subjects with the touch of a skilled novelist. This is a prodigiously reported, compulsively readable book that readers (sports fans or not) will savor.”

**BOSTON GLOBE:** “Team sports, like life, are never simple...Rarely is that tapestry revealed as fully, and as convincingly, as in Neil Swidey’s *The Assist* .”

**TAMPA TRIBUNE:** “One does not have to be from Boston to appreciate Swidey’s writing skills. His characters are real and have a story to tell. It’s a tale that pulsates with the intensity of a full-court press.”

**YAHOO SPORTS:** “This is great literature.”

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS:** “An absorbing examination of at-risk, inner-city youths who succeed against all odds. GRADE: A .”