



Bill Barton travels the world as a business partner with three companies that develop and sell products to nonprofit organizations, small businesses, and large retailers. He received his MBA from Baylor University. A sought-after speaker, he combines his business experience and passion for the spiritual life to motivate and inspire others. Bill lives in Tennessee with his wife and two sons.



Henry O. Arnold has been a professional actor, writer, and director in theatre, film, and television. He co-wrote and produced the film *The Second Chance* starring Michael W. Smith and wrote the screenplay for the first authorized film documentary on evangelist Billy Graham, *God's Ambassador*. Henry lives in Tennessee with his wife, Kay.

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Combining realistic sports action and a deadly serious challenge to faith, *Hometown Favorite* is a story that won't let you up off the turf until the game clock hits zero.

"Great fiction ennobles and does so by exploring the foremost passions of the human heart: the transforming power of love, the yearning to belong, the power of friendship, the call of destiny, the crises that fashion and test character. Barton and Arnold reach for these heights, and in doing so, they call us to our best. That they accomplish this through a story that is as gritty and desperate as any we might witness on the evening news is a marvelous achievement."

—**Stephen Mansfield**, *New York Times* bestselling author

"An amazing story of betrayal, forgiveness, redemption, and hope. The characters are vibrant and alive. Barton and Arnold have a rare and keen understanding of human nature, making the spiritual truths of this story both profound and compelling."

—**Michael W. Smith**, recording artist

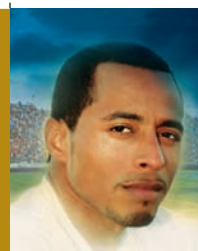
"Like a close game and a score that just won't turn around, Dewayne's true fans and *Hometown Favorite* readers will appreciate the daunting odds fate doles out and this story's hard-won outcome."

—**Darnell Arnoult**, author of *Sufficient Grace*

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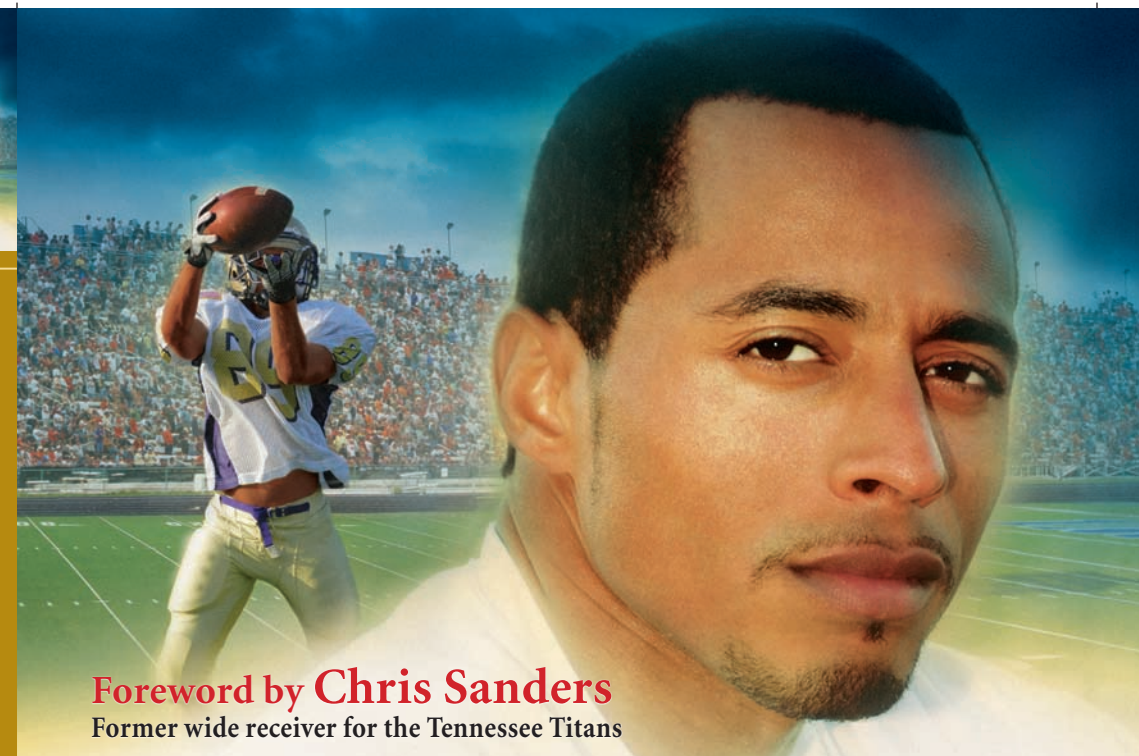
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HOMETOWN FAVORITE

Barton/Arnold

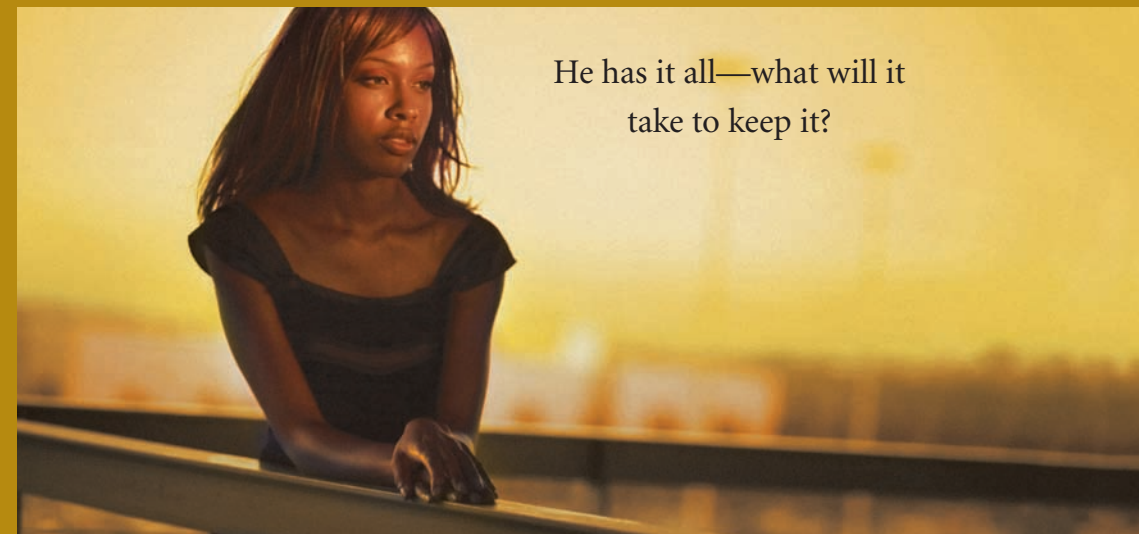


Foreword by **Chris Sanders**
Former wide receiver for the Tennessee Titans

HOMETOWN FAVORITE

A NOVEL

Bill Barton and Henry O. Arnold



He has it all—what will it take to keep it?

He can turn around a losing football program. But can he rebuild a devastated life?

Built like a lineman with a sprinter's speed, Dewayne Jobe is one of those rare athletes whose exceptional abilities place him in a league of his own. He is a guaranteed Hall of Famer, a franchise savior. With his beautiful, intelligent wife running his lucrative endorsement business and carrying his child, the only thing lacking is a road sign confirming his address as Easy Street.

But catastrophe blindsides him and strikes with a crushing vengeance. Will Dewayne's faith and character stand the test of such tragedy? Or will he lose everything—including the love of his life? How he responds will determine whether the headlines write an epitaph of failure or spotlight a comeback that is nothing short of a miracle.

FOIL