

## **In the Swish**

**Dawn Green**

**Reviewed by: Paufa Phanachet, 14**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**

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In the Swish is a story about basketball, friendship and teamwork. Bennett Ryan, a star high school basketball player, is forced to move to a new school hours away where her widow mother took the job of principal. Bennett has to adapt to her new school and gain acceptance on the team that used to be her former rivals. She also made a surprising connection with the new coach's daughter, Matti, who is on the autism spectrum.

I am not a big sports fan, but I really liked this book. The messages of resilience, tenacity and positivity really resonated with me. The characters were relatable and endearing. Bennett was a great role model with lots of admirable qualities. I loved Matti and she steals the scene every single time. The author demonstrates good sensitivity in the way that she depicted Matti's condition. I also loved the fact that there was no love interest. The author was able to make a perfectly engaging story without adding a love triangle. There is a lot of basketball in the book. The descriptions of the plays and such can be a bit heavy.

I would recommend this book as a gift for girls who play basketball at the highschool level. For those who are not huge sport fans, however, I would recommend borrowing the book from the library. This book would be great for kids ages 12 and up.

### **Recommended Titles:**

- The Sweet Spot by Spacey Barnett Mozer
- After the shots drop by Randy Ribay
- The Distance to Home by Jenn Bishop