

Furia

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Furia is about Camila Hassan, a young woman with big ambitions, that risks important parts of her life to follow her dream of being a famous competitive soccer player for an American team. She lives in Argentina, where women's abilities are typically overlooked. When she is at home, she tries to follow her family's expectations, but her abusive father and strict mother make that a challenge. Her parents would not approve of her love for soccer, as they view it as a manly sport. Her brother is also a rising soccer star, so she is constantly in his shadows and wanting to express her talents.

Her team qualifies for the South American tournament, which gives Camila the chance to show scouts her skills. At the same time, the boy she once loved has come back to town. He became an international star, playing soccer in Italy. Camila struggles with concentrating on her passion, and ultimately needs to decide if she is ready for a relationship. Camila is forced to face her family with her secrets and her almost-boyfriend, Diego with her feelings.

This book is so empowering for young women while not being boring and unentertaining. The romance aspect of the book is so pure and leaves you feeling like the characters' love for each other is forever. Diego is so respectful and supportive of Camila in the beginning! Their passion for each other is overwhelming. Also, I enjoyed how they grew up together and how Diego has always had a love for Camila, even just as a friend.

Another aspect of the book was women empowerment and success. Camila is so hardworking and such a good role model! She makes sure to train and eat well, nourishing her body instead of punishing it. She also has a time teaching children English on top of her competing. She talks about saving up for college to play soccer in the U.S. Camila is hesitant to have a relationship with Diego because she is worried how that will affect her soccer career. This shows young women that they don't need a man to save them, and they can achieve their dreams.

Lastly, the Spanish vocabulary placed throughout the book is so beautiful and educational. I would recommend this book for girls ages 13 and up. There is some mature material like inappropriate language and the discussion of women's rights.

Recommended Books:

All of Us With Wings, Michelle Ruiz Keil

The Off Season, Catherine Gilbert Murdock

Miss Meteor, Tehlor Kay Mejia and Anna-Marie Mclemore

