

Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Free Throws

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Going head-to-head with your best friend is never easy, on the court or off.

Josie loves hottie Ethan Lancaster, the captain of the basketball team, but she never can do or say the right thing in front of him. So how can it be fair that Ethan is only interested in her best friend, Cami, when Cami isn't even trying for his affection? Or is she?

Cami dreams of winning her basketball team's coveted MVP award, and earning the chance to take the court during a special halftime demonstration with WNBA star Rebecca Lobo, but her best friend, Josie, is a better player. So how can it be fair that Josie is a shoo-in for the honor if she is barely interested in basketball in the first place and isn't even trying to be the best? Or is she?

Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Free Throws Details


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From Reader Review Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Free Throws for online ebook

Crimsonsnow says

I actually quite enjoyed it, but it ticks my pet peeves on high school books:

1. Maybe she doesn't have a lot of interest in rocket science but Josie's interaction with Frederick made me think that her being in every AP classes were informed attribute.
2. Rather stereotypical portrayal of "the most popular girl" and "the obnoxious, gibberish talking science-guy". Thankfully Frederick and Josie turns out as friends in the end.

Other than that, a quick read.

Akilah says

This was cute. I liked the focus on friendships here: best and unexpected. The conflict is believable (they fight over a boy), and the parents' reactions were really good. I also liked the look at the different ways the girls approached sports and what that said about their personalities. All in all, a fun read.

NaDell says

Fun little high school book about some freshmen girls who play basketball and both like the same boy. I liked the characters, especially the unexpected ones who helped the girls learn to be more accepting and kind to everyone. Seemed fairly realistic to real high school behavior, while still being a nice, clean book. Prereading for my daughter.

Stacy Goodworth says

I've got to admit, the author gets high school. It's kind of fun to read as an adult and be glad I'm not back in high school. It can be pretty amusing, though I know it's very real to those crazy hormonal teens and tweens who live at my house.

Attack Salmon says

Janette Rallison been kind of a hit and miss author for me. But her humour is like no other and keep me coming back for more

Unfortunately this one just doesn't cut it at all

Rhiannon Ling says

This book was amazing! I highly recommend it to anyone! Life, love, and the pursuit of free throws is about two girls, Cami and Josie, who each want a different thing. Josie wants Ethan Lancaster's attention, and Cami wants to be the MVP for her basketball team, so she can run drills with Rebecca Lobo. Cami promises Josie she can get Ethan to talk to her, as long as Josie can help her with free throws. Josie agrees. But, the only conversations Ethan is having is with Cami! And Josie is getting better and better at improving HER score!

What I loved about this book is how Janette Rallison, so realistically, captured a best friend cat fight. I can totally relate. Every girl should read this book!

I think this story is about friendship, and how to deal when things don't go your way. Janette really show that things don't always go your way. Another thing this book talks about, is don't expect people are perfect, or that they're not a good friend. Get to know them first!

I love this sentence, mostly because of how the author says it: *By the end of the game I almost expected my lungs to crawl out of my throat and surrender.* I can't imagine lungs crawling up a throat, waving a white flag!

I loved sharing what I liked about this book with you. I hope all girls read it!

Emmi L says

Meet Josie and Cami. They are two freshmen in high school. They love to play basketball. Their dream is to meet and ask Rebecca Lobo what it takes to become what you are an alstar player. While Josie and cami love basket ball every girl has a special someone. Josie has a major crush on Ethan. She trys to change her clothes and wear make up. Another person who likes Ethan is Cami her best friend has a secret on Ethan. She doesn't tell Josie because she doesn't want to be a bad friend. Later in the book Josie finds out what is happening between Cami and Ethan which was talking on the phone and give candy bars to each other Josie saw it as her BFF betraying her. This dose not help this situation where the find out that they have to drive to go see Rebecca and they stop at a gas station and.....

Josie is my favorite character in the book life love and the pursuit of free throws. The first reason she is my favorite character is she wants to be the best at what she dose. Also she is in all honors classes the only thing I don't like her is she wants to change who she is for a boy that she doesn't even know that well or at all. While I was reading this book Josie reminded me of my cousin. After I found out that she was in all honors classes and in her first year of high school my cousin Crystal came to mind. Beside that my cousin not playing basket ball and doesn't like a guy name Ethan they have a lot in common. Another thing is Crystal doesn't have a girl as a best friend. But their personalities are really similar. They both are shy around the person they like and they don't like their younger siblings (but who dose). The last thing they have in common is they like to be the good person. This means they like being there when somebody needs them.

In my opinion this book is best for people who like a girl drama book between the ages 8-12. The first reason

I believe this is because this wouldn't happen in real life it would go much worse. I liked it, but older kids like intense action and this book didn't have that much intense action. Another reason is, the reading level is not that high. For a high schooler this is like a picture book to a 5th grader. The last reason is, it teaches kids a very important lesson. They are telling them not to change who they are for a guy and to be the best at what you can be because even if someone is better than you at something but you tried you're best it will always pay off. That is why I think this book is good for kids ages 8-12.

Karen Ball says

Another dual point of view book! Cami and Josie have been best friends forever, but Ethan comes between them. This affects not only their friendship (and their families since they've all been carpooling and friendly for years), but the basketball team they both play on. Both of them want the team MVP honor, since that person is going to get to play with Rebecca Lobo of the WNBA at an upcoming game, but they have to get their teamwork together and their heads on straight if either of them is going to have a real shot at this. Light and fun, but it also deals with jealousy and getting a friendship through a few rocky places.

Karen says

Teenage drama

I enjoyed this book but not as well as a lot of Rallison's other books. It was told in the perspective of two friends Josie and Cami. Josie and Cami's friendship is tested when a popular cute boy starts to flirt with Cami. Cami has known for a long time that Josie had a crush on him but has had a secret crush on him as well. Jealousy, hormones, and girl drama ensue.

Millie says

Maybe even 5 stars. Very funny, fun, teeny bopper book. I quite enjoyed it! Quick read.

Amber says

At first I really didn't care for this book at all because of the main character, Cami. She was insecure and jealous of her friend, Josie, for reasons that Josie had absolutely no control over. Josie is pretty, Josie has a bigger family than I do I, Josie is better at basketball than I am....um, I'm sorry but grow up. She was whiny and mean and childish and over all, in my opinion, a really bad friend. Meanwhile Josie could have been a little less obsessed with her crush, Ethan, but was over all a great friend to Cami. So how does Cami repay this friendship? By talking and flirting with Ethan behind Josie's back. Now don't get me wrong, I don't think it was Cami's fault that Ethan 'liked' her, but the fact that she absolutely *knew* how much of a betrayal that was to Josie, and she still knowingly did it anyway? That was where my big problem came in. A true friend would have let her know about her feelings and what was going on before everything blew up.

Admittedly I figured out what Ethan was up to way early in the game, and I really didn't love the way Josie reacted when she found out that Cami had been spending time talking to Ethan, but it was fine. The second half of this novel was all pretty predictable and everything was wrapped up in a tidy little bow, and hand delivered with a side of new, cute love interest, but it still held my attention and I did like the ending. Aside from the several spelling errors and my extreme dislike for Cami for the first half of the book, I did end up liking it enough that I would try something else from this author.

Scribs says

Good message for tweens about the importance of friendships. I keep buying her books for my girls. When they reach that age, I want something clean and fun for them to read.

Sravani says

This book was really fun and i really like the character's personalities. It feels like a realistic version of the school for good and evil.

Kiera Beddes says

Genre: relationships, sports, high school

Summary: Cami and Josie are BFF's (and yes, the acronym accurately describes their relationship. They are very similar, finish each other sentences, and crush on the same boy. (They are both on the school's basketball team) Cami flirts with him and breaks Josie's heart. They have a verbal duel during the poetry unit in English. They find other people to be friends with. Josie becomes somewhat buddy buddy with Frederick, her acidic science project partner, Cami does likewise with her crazy ESP science project partner. Their fight continues until the biggest game of the season, they are left stranded at a gas station. While they are waiting for someone to save them, they make up and are BFF's once again. Frederick, Josie's acerbic science partner, has a friend (note, attractive) that saves the day and the girls by getting them to the game on time. Josie's happy, the girls are friends again and everything is wonderful again.

Response: Classic high school drama. I tried interviewing my younger sister to see if girls really did fight over the same boys. Apparently, they do! So this story wasn't too far outside the bounds of reality. It was just a silly fun read. I wasn't a jock during high school, still not, so it is a different experience trying to relate with these girls. Still, they have feelings too, so it was not horrible. But it definitely doesn't earn any quality awards. There are much better books out there. This was just good filler stuff. I would recommend it to girls that are in the same situation as the protagonists. Again, not too challenging.

Becky says

I like this author a lot, but this wasn't one of my favorites. It's the sports thing, mostly. I've never been able to relate to athletes and their worries and concerns and I couldn't buy the whole WNBA star business. I don't think even the WNBA takes itself this seriously.

Still, it's not a bad book and the alternating view points worked well. It's just not going to be one I recommend. It's just not for me.
