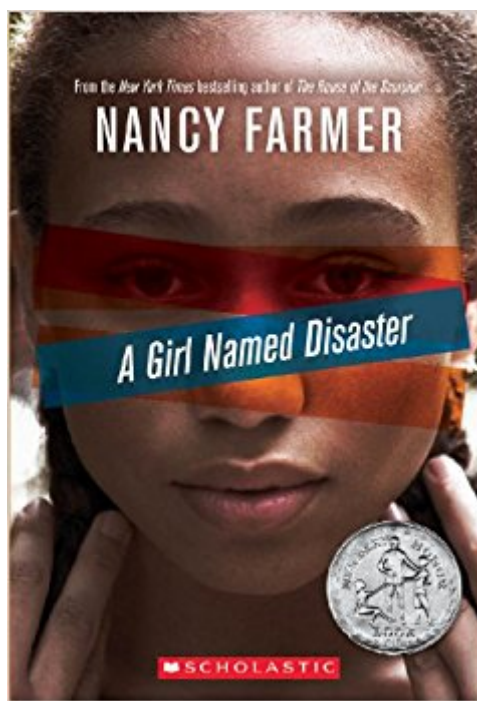


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A Girl Named Disaster



Synopsis

This Newbery Honor book by award-winning, bestselling author Nancy Farmer is being reissued in paperback! Eleven-year-old Nhamo lives in a traditional village in Mozambique, where she doesn't quite fit in. When her family tries to force her into marrying a cruel man, she runs away to Zimbabwe, hoping to find the father she's never met. But what should have been a short boat trip across the border turns into a dangerous year-long adventure, and Nhamo must summon her innermost courage to ensure her survival.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reprint edition (January 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545356628

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Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.2 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (135 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #72,652 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Runaways](#) #44 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa](#) #2825 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer, Puffin Publishing co. "The journey will be the hardest thing you'll ever do, but it will be worth it", her grandmother said. When a Shona girl named Nhamo is forced into an arranged marriage to save her village in Southern Africa, her grandmother thinks the opposite. Grandmother tells her to runaway from Mozambique to Zimbabwe, to find her father and be safe. After going countless days all alone on a lake she comes across an inhabited island with baboons. After resting, she finds Zimbabwe and a few other friends. A scary part in the book is when Nhamo gets possessed by a witch. That is part of the rising action and leads to the conclusion. Nhamo and Ambuya (Nhamo's grandmother), Mastiva and Nhamo mother are the main characters in this book. To describe Nhamo, she was quiet and obedient. She got bossed around by

her aunt and other women in the village. Most of the work around the village was done by Nhamo with rarely any help. She liked hiding away and not being found when her aunt sent her to get wood. As Nhamo goes on to Zimbabwe, she gains muscle and becomes brave. Ambuya is a strong, wise village elder. Nhamo is one of Ambuya's favorites. Ambuya enjoys telling folk tales and is good at giving advice. Mastiva is Nhamo's cousin and gets to sit all day and do nothing while Nhamo has to do all the work. The reason why Mastiva doesn't have to do work is because Mastiva's mother holds a grudge at Nhamo's Mother who is dead. Nhamo is important to this story because she's the strongest. She is the main character because she goes through the most and learns very quickly. Yes, I would recommend this book to girls age 12-16, because I learned a lot from it. It made me think about what I would do in Nhamo's situation.

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