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Going Going

Gillian Streeter

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Nye, Naomi Shihab. *Going Going*. Greenwillow, 2005. ISBN 0688161855. \$15.99. 232 pp.

Reviewer: Gillian Streeter

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Contemporary realistic fiction;

Subject: Political activists--Juvenile fiction; Small business--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Florrie is a sixteen year old, anti-franchise activist who commits to boycott all franchises in favor of supporting local businesses for sixteen weeks. She tries to persuade her restaurateur family and her friends to participate, as well as a mysterious and attractive boy named Ramsey. Soon Florrie's activism gains media attention, and the threat of chain stores on local businesses hits closer to home than anyone expects.

Nye is a poet, first and foremost, and it shows through her lyrical text. Although not written in poetry, the text is full of dreamlike scenes and vivid descriptions of the novel's setting in downtown San Antonio, Texas. The theme speaks about loss of familiar and loved places, loved ones, and community identity. *Going, Going* is not a "doom and gloom" book, but regret echoes in the descriptions. Florrie's romance blends with the story well but is not the focal point. A thoughtful book with purpose and conviction in it – a welcome read that stands above superficial young adult literature.