



2005

You can do it!: the merit badge handbook for grown-up girls.

Gillian Streeter

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Grandcolas, Lauren Castuzzi. *You can do it!: the merit badge handbook for grown-up girls*.
Illustrated by Breckenreid, Julia. Chronicle, 2005. ISBN 0811846350. \$24.95. 495 pp.

Reviewer: Gillian Streeter

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Informational books;

Subject: Women--life skills guides--Juvenile literature; Experiential learning--Juvenile literature;

Readers in need of motivation to follow a dream, a fantasy, or simply a whim can find it in Grandcolas' *You Can Do It!*. This book even comes with a set of merit-badge-like stickers for readers who complete an activity or reach a goal. Grandcolas had the idea for *You Can Do It!*, but her sisters made it a reality after Grandcolas was killed when United Airlines Flight 93 went down on September 11, 2001. In the spirit of Grandcolas' life, all the text is encouraging and uplifting in its style; the reader feels as if each subject's mentor is a new friend. Subjects range across many areas and skills including continuing one's education, wine-tasting, crafts and writing. This handbook is a broad introduction to whatever the readers' dreams may be, and how to put a solid foundation under their castles in the air.