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Because I Was a Girl: True Stories for Girls of All Ages

Emilee Bell

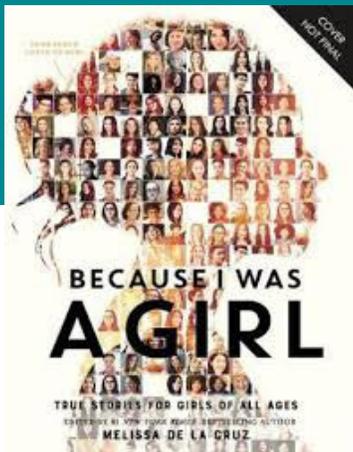
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Book Review

Because I Was a Girl: True Stories for Girls of All Ages

Author

Melissa de la Cruz

Illustrator

Reviewer

Emilee Bell

Rating

Excellent

Level

Intermediate, Young Adult

Pages

456

Year

2017

Publisher

Henry Holt and Compa-

ISBN

9781250154460

This is the anthology of the modern age of women. Girls of all ages, from all walks of life, unfold the events of their lives to the eyes of the public. Raw, honest, positive, and hopeful stories line the pages of de la Cruz's book. Read of the courage of trailblazing politicians, financial executives, and fiery entrepreneurs. Witness the bloom of young girls into fierce advocates, truth-speaking writers, and empathetic social innovators. Ache with the bruised, abused, and suppressed; rejoice as they rise above the cards they're dealt to mentor and raise the ones behind them.

Because I Was a Girl includes de la Cruz's own story about workplace sexism and how she overcame the opposition and blatant discrimination. Although she obviously comes from a victim's perspective, her work encompasses a variety of perspectives. The stories are not only a list of grievances, but also a memorial to the countless believers in the power of girls and women. This is an obviously positive publication—although each writer experiences opposition, each writer is undeniably successful and a pioneer in her field. It may have been helpful to have included stories from pre-1920s of women who experienced so much opposition that they were stopped, or forgotten. This is an appropriate and incredible piece for a teenage girl's personal library.

* Some strong language included; sexual abuse mentioned, though not explicitly.