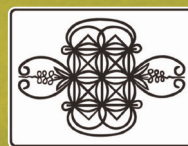


Level 4



The Girl in the Field



By Venezia

Illustrated by Mila Aydingoz

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A watercolor illustration of a room. In the upper center, a window with horizontal wooden blinds is partially open, showing a view of green foliage and a blue sky. The walls are a warm, textured yellow-orange. In the lower left, a bed with a wooden frame is partially visible, covered with a white sheet and a yellow blanket. On the floor, which is made of light-colored wooden planks, a pair of red and orange sneakers sits next to a soccer ball. The overall style is soft and painterly.

Josiane loved to play sports,
especially football.

As soon as she woke up, Josiane
remembered: today was going to
be amazing.

It was cloudy, but Josiane got up and got ready. It was finally time for the football competition at Shapi, and she was a star player.







Josiane hurried through her morning routine then walked to the Shapi Stadium. People were already there, waiting for the match!



“Get ready, Josiane! We’re starting soon!” her coach called.



Josiane hurried to change into her football uniform.

As she did, she heard the Master of Ceremonies over the speaker. “Attention, sports fans, the game will begin in five minutes!”







Five minutes later, Josiane was walking onto the field with her team. The teams shook hands with each other, and the game began.



Within minutes, the other team had scored against Josiane's team. The crowd cheered. The score was 0-1.





But it didn't last long. Josiane's team scored the next point, making it 1-1!



The game continued this way for the first three quarters.



In the final quarter, Josiane was lining up to kick. She was about to send the ball into the other team's goal when suddenly her foot was kicked out of the way!







Josiane heard a crack as someone from the other team kicked her foot, hard. The game was paused as the other player was sent off the field and Josiane was hurried to hospital.



The coach sent in someone to replace Josiane, and the game began again.





From her emergency bed, Josiane watched the rest of the game on a small television in the room. In the final minutes, her team scored twice and won! It was disappointing to be hurt, but she was still happy to be part of the game.



**You can use these questions
to talk about this book with
your family, friends and
teachers.**



Why did Josiane have to go to hospital?



Why did the other player get in trouble for kicking Josiane?



What might happen to the other player for breaking the rules?

Have you ever been injured playing sport?



Write down a list of the rules for your favourite game.

About the author

Venezia was born on the island of Santo and she loves to tell stories with her friends and family. Her favourite story as a child was *A Day of Fishing*.



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The Girl in the Field

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Save the Children



Original illustrations by Mila Aydingoz

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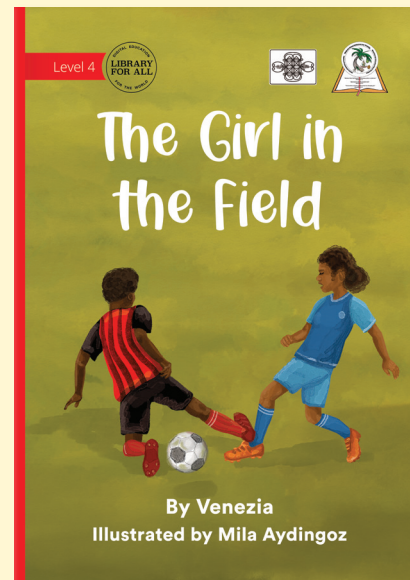
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Josiane is excited for the football competition today. But in the final quarter of the game, one of the other players injures her!



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