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With the Fire on High

## With the Fire on High

By Elizabeth Acevedo

#### With The Fire On High

With her daughter to care for and her abuela to help support, high school senior Emoni Santiago has to make the tough decisions, and do what must be done. The one place she can let her responsibilities go is in the kitchen, where she adds a little something magical to everything she cooks, turning her food into straight-up goodness. Still, she knows she doesnâ $\in$ <sup>™</sup>t have enough time for her schoolâ $\in$ <sup>™</sup>s new culinary arts class, doesnâ $\in$ <sup>™</sup>t have the money for the classâ $\in$ <sup>™</sup>s trip to Spain â $\in$ <sup>™</sup> and shouldnâ $\in$ <sup>™</sup>t still be dreaming of someday working in a real kitchen. But even with all the rules she has for her life â $\in$ <sup>™</sup> and all the rules everyone expects her to play by â $\in$ <sup>™</sup> once Emoni starts cooking, her only real choice is to let her talent break free.

I binge read most of this book and it was the best therapy session I've ever had

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire On High Elizabeth Acevedo

\*ARC provided in exchange for an honest review by Harper Collins Frenzy. Thank you!\*

This was such a great read. So rich and vibrant, I felt like I could smell and taste each dish that Emoni made. She was an easy to character to love and root for and I enjoyed watching her journey throughout her senior year as a teen mom struggling to put herself first for once. Overall, I think this book was just as beautiful as the cover is (and that's pretty damn beautiful.)

My favorite book of the month so far. This was SO GOOD and Elizabeth Acevedo has definitely become an auto-buy author for me. Also side-note: I feel SO ATTACKED that all the food mentioned in this book is not currently in my mouth??????????? It all sounds so damn good I just 🤤

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire That You Started In Me

"The world is a turntable that never stops spinning; as humans we merely choose the tracks we want to sit out and the ones that inspire us to dance."

Elizabeth Acevedo has done it again! This sophomore novel is vastly different from Poet X, yet it is equally filled with boriqua pride, strong familial love and characters that ooze diversity. And that cover - breathtakingly gorgeous!

Emoni is a (part Puerto Rican, part Black) teenage mom who was raised by her 'Buela (grandmother) after the death "The world is a turntable that never stops spinning; as humans we merely choose the tracks we want to sit out and the ones that inspire us to dance."

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Emoni is a (part Puerto Rican, part Black) teenage mom who was raised by her 'Buela (grandmother) after the death of her mother in childbirth. How I adored her abuela and their strong relationship! Emoni's love and devotion for her daughter was everything. She wants so much for Emma and is willing to work hard and do whatever it takes to make something of herself.

Emoni has magic hands when it comes to cooking. Her food literally evokes physical emotion in all who eat it as she essentially pours a bit of herself into every dish she makes. This dash of magical realism woven into the story was perfection. I thoroughly enjoyed the recipes and the emails to her aunt about food sprinkled throughout. Food plays as important a role in the story as poetry did in Poet X.

Emoni struggling to find her way and working towards realizing her dreams was front and center here. It never took a back seat to the love story woven in which I absolutely appreciated. There were many strong secondary characters that impacted Emoni's life and added richness to the story. Her relationship with her best friend reminded me so much of my own that I couldn't help but smile each time they were together.

A lot happens in this book and I happily followed along with Emoni's life with every turn of the page. The short chapters made it feel hard to put the book aside - I kept thinking "just one more chapter" and found myself done before I was ready to let go.

Thank you to Elizabeth Acevedo, Harper Teen and Edelweiss for the opportunity to read and review this emotional and empowering story. ...more

This is literally one of the most stunning covers I've ever seen. Wow.

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire On High Book

5 stars

The world is a turntable that never stops spinning; as humans we merely choose the tracks we want to sit out and the ones that inspire us to dance.

I read Acevedo's debut novel, The Poet X last year and I was impressed by her words and moved by the story. When her sophomore novel, With the Fire on High came out, I picked it up straight away. Honestly, I loved this one so much more than her first book. The story was fantastic and it's by far the best YA book I've read this year.

Emoni 5 stars

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Emoni is a senior in high school and a single mom to her baby girl, Emma. She got pregnant her freshman year of high school and has had to carry the title of teen mom through her entire high school career. Things aren't easy for Emoni. She lives with her Abuela, works part time, goes to school, and has a baby to take care of. She feels most herself and most happy when she's in the kitchen. Emoni is an amazing cook. Her food is magic and it's her passion. When a culinary program comes to her school, she is excited to take the class. There is a trip to Spain at the end of the year for the culinary class, and even though it seems impossible, she wants to go more than anything.

Through all this, Emoni starts to fall for a guy in her cooking class. He pursues her but she's not sure what to do. She's got a lot on her plate and romance has always been on the back burner for her. Even though she got pregnant young, she's inexperienced and unsure of where this can go. I loved watching Emoni figure out life and her feelings. She's an amazing mother, passionate chef, great friend and I couldn't have adored her more. I also loved her love interest, and I loved that it wasn't the focus of the book.

This book is important to read for so many reasons. It showcases teen mothers and their responsibility/the way the world sees them and how different it is for teen fathers. Not to say that every situation is like that, but I think most are. It means a lot to me to read about a teen mother in such a positive light as my mother was 15 when she got pregnant with me and even though I'm sure there

With the Fire on High

were a lot of obstacles and struggles for her, she is the best mom ever and she always took care of me and put me first, much like Emoni. It made my heart happy to see this.

I have to note that if you can listen to either of Acevedo's books in audio format, you should. She narrates them herself and does an amazing job. This story is Emoni's journey through finding herself and reaching for her dreams. It's an important book, so very well written, and even though it was emotional for me, it was a lot of fun to listen to. I can't recommend it enough!! ...more

LATINO REP!!! YAYYY! I'M 50% LATINO. But you could never tell. I'm as pale as a naked banana 🕠Œ

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With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire On High Summary

a fantastic prose novel from a fantastic author

I'll start this review off by saying that I haven't had the chance to read Acevedo's debut, but everyone I've talked to raves about it. So requesting and getting approved for this ARC was really special and I'm really grateful I had the opportunity to read this.

The book is about Emoni Santiago, a teen mom in her senior year at a charter school in Philly. She's got a passion for cooking and is trying to figure out what her next move is. Take a culina a fantastic prose novel from a fantastic author

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The book is about Emoni Santiago, a teen mom in her senior year at a charter school in Philly. She's got a passion for cooking and is trying to figure out what her next move is. Take a culinary class in high school? Go to college?

But more importantly, this book was about culture and family and roots. I loved the way this story was told almost in little vignettes about Emoni's life. All of the chapters drove the story forward but getting little insights into pieces of her life in the past or little insights about being a young mother was incredibly compelling. And reading a book about a latinx character was really cool. I've never read a book with an afro-latinx main character and i really felt for Emoni and where she came from.

This book was full of flavor, recipes, and love. I also really appreciated the ending and the overall "quietness" of this book. It felt realistic and complicated and messy. And at this point I'm just throwing out adjectives, but just know that this book was a really fantastic sophomore novel and I implore you all to pick it up. ...more

ARC provided in exchange for honest review ðŸ•'

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire Of A Thousand Suns

Blog | Instagram | Twitter | Tumblr | Youtube | Twitch

With the Fire on High reminded me of Robin Benway's Far from the Tree in a way that it takes a similarly super positive, almost syrupy sweet tone. Both stories are inspirational and lean on the fantasy of the tribes of supportive people that will lift you up and help you out of the direst circumstances. Fell-good? Yes. Realistic? Eh.

Emoni is a high-school senior, a teen mom of a 2-year old daughter, and an aspiring chef. She works hard, she is nice and calm, she is also kind of bland. With the With the Fire on High reminded me of Robin Benway's Far from the Tree in a way that it takes a similarly super positive, almost syrupy sweet tone. Both stories are inspirational and lean on the fantasy of the tribes of supportive people that will lift you up and help you out of the direst circumstances. Fell-good? Yes. Realistic? Eh.

Emoni is a high-school senior, a teen mom of a 2-year old daughter, and an aspiring chef. She works hard, she is nice and calm, she is also kind of bland. With the Fire on High is a story of Emoni's last year of high school and of her figuring out what to do with her life after.

The problem with this novel is that there isn't really a conflict. Emoni strives for better life and achieves EVERYTHING that she wants through hard work and with the help of her grandma, ex, best friend, teachers, etc. She deserves for things to work out for her, but it also makes for a rather dull story.

I also think that Acevedo's transition to prose from the verse of The Poet X was not a fully successful one. For every delightful turn of phrase, there is always a clunker of a "I let go of the breath I didn't know I'd been holding" variety (twice within a couple of pages!). It felt like Acevedo's rather tight poetry was expanded through the use of the lamest YA stock prose.

Many good subjects brought up here - poverty, teenage pregnancy, post-pregnancy body, etc., but it all is sugar-coated a lot too, especially where motherhood and juggling child/school/work is concerned, which made it clear Acevedo knows about raising kids mostly second-hand. Emoni's is a well-meaning story, and yet not very affecting IMO. ...more

With the Fire on High

## With The Fire That You Started In Me Lyrics

A worthy follow up to an amazing debut

Okay, first of all: this cover is GORGEOUS.

Second: The premise sounds bomb af and I can't wait to read this!!

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire On High Release Date

Before I began reviewing this book in depth, I have to begin saying that I ABSOLUTELY LOVED IT. Plot, characters, all of it was superb.

I loved how the writter develops the narrative. You have small-ish chapters that make it easy to move from one to another, and the lecture grips you and doesn't let you go. You promise yourself just another chapter, 'cause they are short, right? But you can't put down this book, is that good. The narrative flourishes, is easy to read and is really well constructe Before I began reviewing this book in depth, I have to begin saying that I ABSOLUTELY LOVED IT. Plot, characters, all of it was superb.

I loved how the writter develops the narrative. You have small-ish chapters that make it easy to move from one to another, and the lecture grips you and doesn't let you go. You promise yourself just another chapter, 'cause they are short, right? But you can't put down this book, is that good. The narrative flourishes, is easy to read and is really well constructed. Also, I loved how all the characters have they own way of talking, and it reflects on the writing. For instance, 'Buela uses a lot of spanish words, honoring her Puerto Rican ancestry.

Talking about that, I have to say that I love a book like this one, where the main character is a mixed black woman, and all her relatives and/or friends are also mixed or black. We need more diverse books, representation matters, and I do love reading books where the main character isn't white.

I also enjoy a lot all of the different aspects having people of color add to a book: different ways of talking, thinking, ways to see things... It makes you put yourself on other people's shoes and see how they see the world and how they are affected by people and their reactions (there is a chapter on the book where Emoni, the main character, reflects about it on a bus, how people judge people differently depending on them being white or black).

I really like that a book makes me think, and makes me realise or see things I haven't given much thought before, or even if I had, I needed to see the prespective, you know?

The plot of the book follows the life of Emori, a single mom, barely 18, who has to care for her little one and lives with her grandma. She has been raised by her, and we are gonna see the stranded relationship she has with her father and why things are as they are.

We are going to meet her bestfriend in the whole world, and appreciate the power of women's sorority. And we also are going to met the new kid on the hood, who is going to be a turning point for Emori and her way to relate to the male species, after her first boyfriend left her pregnant and sort of was an ass (my words, not hers... exactly).

And talking about relation ships, I loved the fact that the author isn't afraid of telling girls they can follow their own pace, they can voice what they want out of a relation, share their thoughts and fears with the other person and also ask for time when they need it, let it be before comitting to a relationship or having sex.

With the Fire on High

For all of this, I just loved this book. Is so different to anything else, and so full of uniqueness that I just couldn't put it down. ...more

All I have to say about this book is that, by the end, it had me trying not to cry into the food I was making. Elizabeth Acevedo did it again, y'all.

With the Fire on High

#### With The Fire On High Review

I loved this. The writing is so simple, poetic and yet moved you - I was tearing up at the end, it had the sort of ending I love (says the girl who hates contemporary fiction).

The characters and the dynamics, it all clashed and flowed together wonderfully to create this novel. I love Acevedo's writing style; the way she mixes things up is so interesting and such a lovely breath of fresh air.

ARC received by Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

"Sometimes focusing on what you can control is the only way to lessen the pang in your chest when you think about the things you can't."

The first time I saw the cover of this book I fell in love, it is so gorgeous!! This book means so much to me! This story was very empowering. Emoni was such a strong character and full of passion. Also the amount of representation in the book was excellent. Emoni is part Puerto-Rican and Black and a te ARC received by Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

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Emoni is told that she has a magic touch when it comes to cooking. She takes a recipe and makes her her own by adding spices she believes will enhance the flavors. I felt such a deep connection to Emoni, she is a badass single teen mom, with a beautiful little girl. Many of you probably don't know that I had my son Noah when I was 17. I understand her struggles, she wants to provide for her daughter. To make the right decisions so that there future will be secure. I have never felt such a connection with a character before, I cried so many tears throughout this book.

When Emoni discovers she has a chance to take a culinary cooking class as an elective in school. She cannot decide if it's the right choice to take the class, they will also be going on a trip to Spain at the end of the semester. She already has to keep up with school work, and she works part time to help cover the cost of the baby, plus actually taking care of the baby. Emoni has a lot on her plate. She dreams of becoming a chef and someday working in a restaurant. This book could have been full of stereotypes about teen mother's, but it wasn't. It was a beautiful story, about a girl despite her circumstances goes after her dream. Oh my Goodness, I'm crying again just typing this review.

With the Fire on High

" I want to be able to take care of my own and the only thing I would want to study is culinary arts, but why try to learn that in a school when I could learn it in a real restaurant where I'm making money instead of spending it?― "Â

The side character's were also an amazing addition to the story, Emoni's best friend is her rock. She has been there for her all through her pregnancy and remained after the baby was born. She is also a lesbian and has the cutest relationship!

The chapters are also really short which I loved. The start of new sections also has little recopies which I thought was a nice touch. It was next to impossible to put down With the Heat on High.

Overall, I would strongly recommend this book. ...more

With the Fire on High

## With The Fire On High Pdf

I always love stories about young women growing their ambition and everything, but also, the cover of this is too beautiful i'm not fucking able to process it

I expected nothing less than greatness from Elizabeth Acevedo