

The Girl with the Louding Voice

Written by Abi Darã©

Published by PDF Site

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The Girl with the Louding Voice

The Girl with the Louding Voice

By Abi DarÃ©

The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo

A powerful, emotional debut novel told in the unforgettable voice of a young Nigerian woman who is trapped in a life of servitude but determined to fight for her dreams and choose her own future.

The Girl With All The Gifts

Adunni is a fourteen-year-old Nigerian girl who knows what she wants: an education. This, her mother has told her, is the only way to get a "louding voice" the ability to speak for herself and decide her own future. But instead, Adunni's father sells her to be the third wife of a local man who is eager for her to bear him a son and heir.

The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo Book

When Adunni runs away to the city, hoping to make a better life, she finds that the only other option before her is servitude to a wealthy family. As a yielding daughter, a subservient wife, and a powerless slave, Adunni is told, by words and deeds, that she is nothing.

The Girl With The Pearl Earring

But while misfortunes might muffle her voice for a time, they cannot mute it. And when she realizes that she must stand up not only for herself, but for other girls, for the ones who came before her and were lost, and for the next girls, who will inevitably follow; she finds the resolve to speak, however she can—in a whisper, in song, in broken English—until she is heard.

The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Dare

Courageous!

Compelling!

Fearless!

I loved this book so much I could not stop talking about this and recommending this book! I haven't read a book like this since forever and what a powerful and emotional read this was for me.

What an amazing debut novel by Abi Dare whose writing transported me to Adunni's life, struggles, misfortunes and triumph as well. I loved reading the book in its colloquial voice of Adunni, a fourteen year old Nigerian girl, who was [The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Dare](#)

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Abused and mistreated by the first wife, Adunni runs away only to find herself a slave in a wealthy household suffering all forms of abuse. Despite the life she is given, Adunni is determined to live out her dreams of going to school and becoming a teacher one day.

The story of Adunni will break your heart, and mend it right back up. The writing is very easy to read and you will find that you will become attached to Adunni and rooting for her to persevere and win in this life that is so set against her. This book made me laugh, cry, squirm to the point of discomfort and feel the different emotions all in one reading.

The Girl with the Louding Voice

Congratulations to Abi Dare for an amazing and successful debut.

I highly recommend this book!! ...more

The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo 2009

A beautiful debut novel!

Once again I judged a book by its cover and once again, doing so did not disappoint. The main character, our narrator, is every bit as bold and brilliant as the colours on this cover, leaping out from the page as soon as she starts to speak and tell her story.

One of the criteria of a good writer is the ability to make us feel for their characters. Be it positive or negative, we become emotionally involved in their lives. Almost from the beginning of *The Girl with the Louding Voice*, I was invested in Adunni, wanted her life to be better, her dreams of an education to be fulfilled.Â

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One of the criteria of a good writer is the ability to make us feel for their characters. Be it positive or negative, we become emotionally involved in their lives. Almost from the beginning of *The Girl with the Louding Voice*, I was invested in Adunni, wanted her life to be better, her dreams of an education to be fulfilled.Â

It is written in the vernacular of English of Adunni's town in Nigeria which I thought gave the novel authenticity. It has a beautiful cadence that draws the reader right in and makes it a book you don't want to put down.Â

I particularly enjoyed that many of the chapters opened with facts about Nigeria, a country I know little about. I hadn't, for instance, realised that it's the 7th most populous country in the world, and one in seven Africans are Nigerian. Another thing I hadn't known is about Nigeria's film industry, known as Nollywood. Its worth is about \$5 billion and is the second largest in the world.

I do have two complaints about this book though, which is why I gave it 4 stars instead of 5: The story is predictable; right from the beginning you know where it's going. Also, though it held my interest 100% for most of the book, by the last 50 or so pages, my interest was waning. I think this was due to the unbelievability of the conversations that took place between Adunni and Big Madam (the woman for whom she was a servant). It suddenly felt inauthentic and as though the author was just intent on wrapping the story up neatly. It also became overly sentimental towards the end; some readers like that in a story -- I don't.Â

Overall, it's a beautiful story of a young girl who longs for an education and a better life but has to fight great odds to reach her dreams. Also, this is not a young adult novel, though it is about a teenage girl. I point that out because a lot of us do not enjoy YA and I don't want readers to be put off thinking this

The Girl with the Louding Voice

book belongs in that genre. It does not. ...more

5 stars!!

This is immediately going on my best of 2020 list. There is so much to hold on to and talk about with this very special book. I found myself bereft of all hope as I read about Adunni's life, yet she continually amazed me. It opens with Adunni learning she will soon be married to a man older than her father, where she will become the third wife in her new home. To think that this practice still exists today all over the world! All Adunni wanted was to go to school and earn an education. 5 stars!!

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I read an galley of this, but will be sure to add this to my book collection because the writing was phenomenal. My copy will be full of fluorescent highlighting because it was just that good. I absolutely urge you to read this book. Run if you have to! Abi Dare is without a doubt one of my new favorites and I will be sure to add her to my list of auto-buy authors.

Thank you to Edelweiss, Dutton Books for the opportunity to read and provide an honest review of this book.

Review Date: 02/10/2020

Publication Date: 02/25/2020 ...more

The Girl With All The Gifts Book

Adunni is a 14 year old Nigerian girl who has had limited educational opportunities, but she has always wanted to become a teacher. Her opportunities shrink even more when her father sells her to an old man to become his third wife. Her job is to produce a son for him. Following a frightening experience, she runs away and a man claiming to be helping her turns her over to a wealthy couple to work as their maid. She gets no wages, is regularly beaten by the wife and sexually threatened by the husband. Adunni is a 14 year old Nigerian girl who has had limited educational opportunities, but she has always wanted to become a teacher. Her opportunities shrink even more when her father sells her to an old man to become his third wife. Her job is to produce a son for him. Following a frightening experience, she runs away and a man claiming to be helping her turns her over to a wealthy couple to work as their maid. She gets no wages, is regularly beaten by the wife and sexually threatened by the husband. Adunni is lucky enough to find a mentor to help her attain independence. That was the only false note I felt in this book. It just seemed too easy for her to manage to break free from her entrapment in this abusive scenario within a mere year after leaving her father's house. I also found the dialect a little difficult to follow at times.

It's really hard for me to come to grips with the fact that this story is set in the 21st century and not the 19th. It was a glimpse into an overwhelmingly patriarchal society of forced marriage, indentured servitude, brutal ceremonies and various condoned abuses. However, Adunni was strong, resilient and determined to use her louding voice to demand that she be noticed and respected. 4.5 stars ...more

Today is publication day for this book. Congratulations, Abi Dare!

This novel won the Bath Novel Award for unpublished manuscripts in 2018. In this interview Abi Dare shares a little about the story and her writing process:

<https://bathnovelaward.co.uk/2018/09/...>

4.5 stars

When we think of a coming-of-age story, we usually imagine a sweet, gradual awakening from adolescence into adulthood. There are bumps and bruises and broken hearts along the way, but it's all just part of growing up. Adunni is Today is publication day for this book. Congratulations, Abi Dare!

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When we think of a coming-of-age story, we usually imagine a sweet, gradual awakening from

The Girl with the Louding Voice

adolescence into adulthood. There are bumps and bruises and broken hearts along the way, but it's all just part of growing up. Adunni is a Nigerian girl who doesn't get the luxury of that incremental process. Her coming of age is swift and brutal, dictated by her father, who thinks a girl-child is "a wasted waste, a thing with no voice, no dreams, no brain."

When Adunni is fourteen years old, her father sells her to a rich old man who wants a third wife. Thus begins a journey that is disturbing and traumatic, but ultimately triumphant.

Before Adunni's mother died, she told her daughter, "Your schooling is your voice, child. It will be speaking for you even if you didn't open your mouth to talk." Throughout everything Adunni has to endure, her dream of furthering her education grows ever stronger. Even after she is essentially sold into what amounts to socially sanctioned slavery in Lagos, she never gives up hope. She wants to become a teacher because, she says, "I don't just want to be having any kind of voice...I want a louding voice."

There are a number of messages the author is trying to convey about Nigeria in this novel. Adunni is representative of several social ills, including child marriage, slave labor, and the enormous chasm between the rich and poor. Nigeria is the wealthiest country in Africa, and yet over half of its people live on less than one dollar a day.

All of these issues are important, but as a reader I was content just to get to know a spirited girl like Adunni. At first I wasn't sure what to make of her, but she grows on you. She already has the voice her mother spoke of, but she's clueless as to how to use it to her best advantage. She really is still a child, and she blurts things out and asks inappropriate questions at the most inopportune times. It gets her in a lot of trouble. Sometimes she is beaten or made to go without food, but she can't help herself.

Eventually Adunni asks the right people the right questions, and she gets a shot at a brighter future. Sometimes all it takes is someone who can point you in the right direction and who believes in you as much as you want to believe in yourself.

Adunni is the first person narrator and she tells her story in an unusual style of English that takes a while to get used to. At first I wasn't sure if I could stick with it, but my brain did adjust, and eventually I stopped noticing it. If you watch closely, you will notice that the the style changes ever so gradually in the second half of the book as Adunni gets the chance to improve her English skills.

Available February 4, 2020 ...more

The Girl with the Louding Voice

The Girl With Seven Names

Audiobook....read by Adjoa Andoh....(Library overdrive),

And....

synced with the ebook that I own.

The Girl With Louding Voice, deserves to win every award its nominated for!!!!

Why are the women in Nigeria suffering so much more than the men? WHY????

My heart was heavy

taking in so much sorrow, and pain.

I was crying and laughing at the same time....towards the end.... a complete emotional mess.

My god.... this novel is BEAUTIFUL!!!!

Love the song at the end....but tears took awhile to stop.

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My god.... this novel is BEAUTIFUL!!!!

Love the song at the end....but tears took awhile to stop.

Itâ€™s a book ... I wish everyone would read

Deeply felt and moving!!!!

Highly recommend!!!

...more

[4,5/5 stars]

The Girl with the Louding Voice

THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE centers around the life of Adunni - a fourteen-year-old Nigerian girl who doesn't want to follow the destiny of all the Nigerian girls and desires to choose her own future.

The first chapter already had me infuriated! I found myself helpless in front of the cultural imposition - Abi Dare does a fantastic job tackling issues of sexism, marriage, parenting, futility, negativity of a patriarchal society and women's inequality. Having read a great amount [4,5/5 stars]

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The first chapter already had me infuriated! I found myself helpless in front of the cultural imposition - Abi Dare does a fantastic job tackling issues of sexism, marriage, parenting, futility, negativity of a patriarchal society and women's inequality. Having read a great amount of stories in which women are culturally less worthy, I still found it unbelievable how women are regarded as meaningless, when they don't have voice for marriage or anything that we consider fundamental. I was totally invested in the story and the slangs made it even more authentic.

The characters were developed in complexity and I felt connected with them. I personally loved Adunni - she was an image of a girl with dreams, being innocent and at the same time, having a good notion of the "dangers" surrounding her. Her curious nature had me thinking of the fact that people shouldn't just accept their realities and live with it. I enjoyed how the characters were down-to-earth and sympathized with the sisterhood between Adunni and Khadija. Also, how inspiring and impactful was the figure of Tia and Kofi in Adunni's life.

The facts about Nigeria in each chapter were utterly interesting - it shows that Nigeria is a wealthy country while having so much poverty and inequality. I devoured this book yet I didn't want it to end. I only wished there was more about the characters' future in the end.

Through stunning writing, THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE is a powerful and eye-opening debut that I can't recommend enough! It reminded me a bit of "A thousand splendid suns" which I loved.

[I received an ARC from the publisher and all opinions are my own]

...more

The Girl With All The Gifts Full Movie

4.5 stars

"I want more than just a voice, I want a louding voice. I want to enter a room and people will hear me even before I open my mouth to be speaking."

I first came across this book in an article written in Daily Kos challenging readers to read 52 books by women of color over the course of the year. I fell in love with the cover. I fell in love with the description. Once I started reading I fell in love with Adunni and her spirit.

The Girl With the Louding Voice is a coming of age story 4.5 stars

"I want more than just a voice, I want a louding voice. I want to enter a room and people will hear me even before I open my mouth to be speaking."

I first came across this book in an article written in Daily Kos challenging readers to read 52 books by women of color over the course of the year. I fell in love with the cover. I fell in love with the description. Once I started reading I fell in love with Adunni and her spirit.

The Girl With the Louding Voice is a coming of age story set in Nigeria. Fourteen year old Adunni has always been encouraged by her mother to follow her dreams. But shortly after her mother's death she is sold off into marriage against her will. Most of the village is happy for her. Her chosen husband is rich and can afford to pay the community rent as part of her bride price. Not all young girls are so lucky. Adunni with her hopes and her dreams is seen as selfish and ungrateful. What she is expected to do is obey her husband and give him boy children. This might sound outrageous for this day and age. Surely child marriage is a thing of the past right? But no. Although there are some protections in place, young girls are still being forced into marriages. A 2018 UNICEF report estimates that one out of every three girls is married before they reach the age of 18.

Although child marriage is an important topic, Dare's debut novel explores patriarchal society more deeply. She looks at the exploitation of children for free labor and examines women's roles in furthering these offenses. In fact, the women in the book were some of the most egregious perpetrators when it came to abusing young girls and women. I understand the concept that "hurt people hurt people" but injustice does not thrive without compliance. That being said I think that The Girl With the Louding Voice was a fairly accurate depiction. I really appreciate that Dare chose such a headstrong and vibrant young character to tell this story.

Special thanks to NetGalley, Dutton Books and Abi Dare for access to this wonderful book. ...more

So Im speechless after reading The Girl With The Louding Voice over the weekend. This was one of those books that I could have easily binge read in one sitting, but I wanted to soak in the story of Adunni.

After a few 5 star reviews started flooding my feed, I was excited to read this debut novel, but I had no

The Girl with the Louding Voice

idea that I would immerse myself so fully into the story.

I was so drawn to Adunni's powerful spirit, despite the fact that she is sold into a marriage at the age of 14, living in a village. So I'm speechless after reading *The Girl With The Louding Voice* over the weekend. This was one of those books that I could have easily binge read in one sitting, but I wanted to soak in the story of Adunni.

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I was so drawn to Adunni's powerful spirit, despite the fact that she is sold into a marriage at the age of 14, living in a village of Nigeria, with no voice regarding her future. Abi Dare has written a beautiful novel, and tackled the issues of sexism, power, grief, marriage, and women's inequality so effortlessly, and I can see why this book is getting the early praise that it deserves.

I highly recommend this book, and you should get those pre-orders in, because this is going down as a favorite of mine!

*Thank you Dutton for the beautiful finished copy for review. All opinions are my own. ...more

The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo Series

Fourteen-year-old Adunni lost her mother to illness. And shortly afterward, her father married her off to an old man to become his third wife. Now she is a housemaid for a wealthy, demanding gorgon. But Adunni has dreams! She wants to go to school, become educated, and eventually teach. Dar's debut novel follows Adunni's journey towards achieving this lofty goal. Along the way, this delightful, spirited girl will steal your heart.

Dar's novel exposes the social ills in Nigerian culture—the issue of child marriage, the prevalence of underpaid labor that is virtual slavery, and the extreme income inequality between classes. Recommend.

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...more

Amazing....14 year old Nigerian girl who wants to have a voice. This was a wonderful book journey; heartbreaking and hopeful...a must read! Full review to come on <https://booknationbyjen.com>.

The Girl With The Louding Voice

Binge-worthy literary fiction. Say what?! Let me introduce you to THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE (available today!).

Adunni, is just 14 when her mother passes away and her father sells her as a 3rd wife to a much older man. Not long after being married, tragedy strikes and she is sold as a servant to a very wealthy household in Lagos. Adunni must fight against all the odds to have a voice and not just a voice but a LOUDING VOICE. Not his-story, I say. My own will be called her-story. Adunnis Binge-worthy literary fiction. Say what?! Let me introduce you to THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE (available today!).

Adunni, is just 14 when her mother passes away and her father sells her as a 3rd wife to a much older man. Not long after being married, tragedy strikes and she is sold as a servant to a very wealthy household in Lagos. Adunni must fight against all the odds to have a voice and not just a voice but a LOUDING VOICE. â€œNot his-story,â€• I say. â€œMy own will be called her-story. Adunniâ€™s story.â€•

Like most stories, this one is best gone in blind. Adunni had my heart from the very first page. You will be cheering for her and screaming and clawing at the people that try to stand in the way. Sheâ€™s so full of light and hope despite the cruel world around her.

While this is a work of fiction, I love that the author sprinkled in Nigerian facts at the beginning of some of the chapters. â€œA 2003 study of over 65 countries suggested that the happiest and most optimistic people in the world live in Nigeria.â€• I also want to mention that the dialect may be unfamiliar to some but do not let it deter you, persevere and you will find your groove quite quickly.

All the SUNSHINE for this beautiful story. Get your hands on a copy when it releases February 4th and save a special place for it on your shelves after youâ€™ve finished. This is going at the top of my forever favorites stack.

P.S. This is a @bookofthefmonth selection for February, a @diversespines pick for March and #thesixspotlight for February. Itâ€™s BASICally a necessity in your reading life. ...more

It may be bold to say, but this is the best book Ive ever read. This is a masterfully-crafted combination of flawless literary fiction and astounding cultural statistics.

â€• I want more than just a voice, I want a louding voice. I want to enter a room and people will hear me even before I open my mouth to be speaking. I want to live in this life and help many people so that when I grow old and die, I will still be living through the people I am helping.â€• Œ

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• I want more than just a voice, I want a louding voice. I want to enter a room and people will hear me even before I open my mouth to be speaking. I want to live in this life and help many people so that when I grow old and die, I will still be living through the people I am helping. Œ

I've said this before, and I firmly believe it still"books have so much power to move us, change us, and teach us. The Girl With A Louding Voice exemplifies a reality that will render you completely heartsick, but will also squeeze out every ounce of compassion within your heart for others and their experiences. A story that encourages a momentous rising of grace and empathy. A reshaping happens during these pages. A powerful combination of prose, people, and culture"a loud debut that deserves to be heard!

I think we as humans should always be looking for ways to make a positive difference"we should always be open-minded and vigilant to what is happening around the world. I am thankful for books written by own voice authors that give us a new perspective into things we may not have known much about beforehand.

• I want to tell her that God is not a cement building of stones and sand. That God is not for all that putting inside the house and locking Him there. I want her to know that the only way to know if a person find God and keep Him in their heart is to check how the person is treating other people, if he treats people like Jesus says"with love, patience, kindness, and forgiveness. Œ

This was a book written from the voice of a girl who desires to be heard. The characters are fully dimensional. I felt their pain and sorrow so deeply. The descriptions that showed the reader into Nigerian culture were vivid and palpable. The writing was immersive, and I felt as if I was being told someone's life story while being face-to-face with them.

• Because it is true, the future is always working, always busy unfolding better things, and even if it doesn't seem so sometimes, we have hope of it. Œ

This was an all-embracing story about strength, pain, and the bravery a girl has to dream for a life beyond the limitations she's been bound to. We live through our faith; our faith is what can propel us forward through our despair. ...more