



Name _____

Date _____

Offside

by Christina Diaz Gonzalez

Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.



Read Aloud Video

Includes Author Interview!

What's It About?

For the first time ever, the Jackson Middle School soccer team is going co-ed--thanks to Nicky's determination. Now Nicky and Fabiola are on a team with Al, Palmer, Seba, and the rest of the boys . . . but that doesn't mean they're all on the same side. Team captain Al is going to do whatever he can to keep the girls off the team, just the way his father wants. When Al and Nicky's rivalry threatens to tear the team apart, everyone's going to have to pick sides. That is, until Palmer looks into why Nicky joined the team, and he starts to realize that there's a bigger problem than what's on the field. . . And maybe the only way to truly win is together.

With text in English and Spanish, *Offside* features the groundbreaking format used in *Invisible*, paired with engaging, accessible, and entertaining storytelling. This is a must-have graphic novel about soccer, friendship, and what it really means to work as a team.

Who Wrote It?

Christina Diaz Gonzalez grew up in a small town in the Florida Panhandle, where she was the only Spanish-speaking kid in school. Her parents are Cuban, so she learned Spanish before English and developed a deep appreciation for both her Cuban heritage and her Southern hometown. As a kid, she loved riding her bike, climbing into her treehouse to read books, and dreaming of becoming an author someday. She even imagined becoming a ballerina, a superhero, and a majorette before eventually discovering her true passion for storytelling. Years later, inspired by her own sons' love of reading, Christina decided to chase her childhood dream and began writing books for young readers. Today she lives in Miami with her family—and a very clever dog that has learned how to open doors! Christina loves visiting schools,



meeting readers in both English and Spanish, and writing action-packed mysteries, adventures, and historical fiction that encourage kids to be brave, curious, and never stop asking questions.

AR Reading Level: N/A

Lexile Level: N/A

I want to read this book: YES / NO

☆☆ WHAT I THINK ☆☆



Use this graphic organizer with the First Chapter Friday videos on YouTube from the Word Nerd.