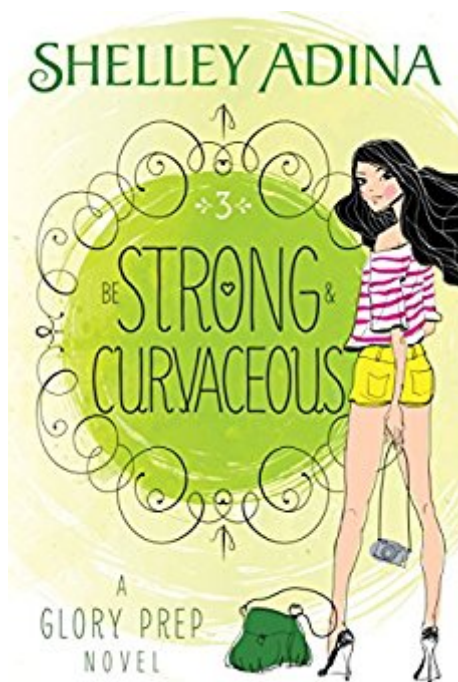


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Be Strong And Curvaceous: Glory Prep Book 3



Synopsis

Book 3 in the Glory Prep series! Be careful what you wish for. It's the last term of junior year and Carly Aragon can't wait because it means a chance to compete in the prestigious Design Your Dreams contest. For a budding clothing designer who's also a scholarship kid, this could mean the difference between launching a career or merely settling for a job. But an ugly surprise is waiting for her when she returns from spring break with her family in Mexico. The flamboyant, rich, and arrogant Lady Lindsay "Mac" MacPhail is her new roommate and she proceeds to steal Carly's privacy, her confidence, and worst of all, her biggest crush! But when weird, threatening messages start appearing in Mac's email, Carly is the only person she can turn to, and they must figure out what's going on before the threats escalate into real danger. Who could imagine that Mac's fate would rest in Carly's hands or that Mac would hold the key to her success at Glory Prep? But God works in mysterious ways even when it means digging deep to find the courage to face them. "I only wish Shelley Adina's series had been around in my day. I recommend it for any young adult who wants to escape to another world and find that they are not alone in their feelings and experiences." MacPhail • Mandisa, American Idol finalist and contemporary Christian artist

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Customer Reviews

Well done!The characters are fun, realistic, and interesting. The writing quality is fantastic and culturally relevant. I would recommend all the books in this series.

Very much enjoyed this book. It is great as a standalone or as part of the series.

As always, I am an adult who is always attracted to YA books that send a positive message about life and who you are.I would hate to be a YA today - the pressure to "fit in" to be "like everyone else" is enormous and that is what the subject matter that is tackled by author Shelley Adina in this book Be Strong and Curvaceous.Without even opening the book, the author had me at the title. However, I was delighted when the storyline confirmed my initial thought - this book brings back main character Carly. She is now at Spencer Academy and finally, some of her dreams seem to be coming through. She is asked to sit on the Design Your Dream Committee, but in order to be one of them, she will have to compromise some of her ideals - will she?Thrown into this mix is a new roommate who brings some problems of her own. After they start receiving strange emails, Mac and Carly will find themselves having to find out the truth, in more ways than one.This third book in the series All About Us - gives us everything - action, drama, romance and a message. There is some talk of God in this book and while I would necessarily classify it as Christian Fiction, there is a strong penchant for religion, however, I do not feel as though it is over the top - it does fit in well with the overall storyline.Nice writing, good story and an important message. I recommend this book to all YA.

Be Strong and Curvaceous is the third book in the 'all about us' series - but it was also very good as a stand alone. The hardest thing about reading it first was just getting the cast of characters set in my mind. Carly, Lissa and Gillian are all students (juniors) at Spencer Academy in San Francisco. They have just started the spring term and upon arriving back at school, Carly discovers that she has a new roommate - "Mac" who we later discover is Lady Lindsay MacPhail, daughter of the Earl

of Strathcairn. Mac isn't at the school long before she publicly humiliates Vanessa Talbot (the "it" girl at the school) and puts up a wall that Carly isn't sure she wants to negotiate. Adding to Carly's confusion is that she just became a Christian and is sure that this isn't the Christian thing to do! Mac could also help her reach her goal of designing a dress in the Design Your Dream Event - if only she hadn't taken on Vanessa. To make matters worse, it seems like Mac also has her eyes on Brett, Carly's crush! This book has romance, rivalry, responsibility, friendship, adventure, and most importantly God! I want my daughter to read it so that she can see that she can talk with God in any and all circumstances - even boys! This would be a great read for a teenage girl. I can't wait to get the first book!

Everytime I read a book in this series, I really wish I could have gone to boarding school for my high school years. At the very least, I wish I could have lived the lives the girls at Spencer Academy get to enjoy. It sounds majorly fun with designer clothes, never ending spending accounts, glamorous lifestyles. At the same time however one gets worried that the characters could end up superficial for being used to that lifestyle. That being said it was really nice to see that there was one girl among them that lived a rather normal lifestyle. Carly is at the school on scholarship plus she has to get a job in order to support the lavish lifestyle she wants to keep. She's ashamed that she can't afford the same things her friends do so she keeps it a secret from them. I wish though she had been a bit more open to her friends. I don't think they would have condemned her for what she had to do although it's very understandable that teens are worried about what their friends think of them. This was probably my favorite book of the series so far. The mystery and suspense sequences in the book were written wonderfully and really held my attention throughout the story. Mac's stalker was really scary. It's very frightening to think that situations like that happen all the time. I really liked seeing Mac's character grow throughout the book. I also loved how she's the only one that was able to put Vanessa in her place. In addition to the great clothes and the fun lifestyle, there's also once again a great sense of diversity in this book which I love. I wish more books in the Christian fiction genre were like this without resorting to typical stereotypes. Also while there's a Christian message within the story it is neither preachy or pushy. The girls share their faith but respect that not everyone will be open or accept it all the time. These girls are a total blast to be around. It's really one of the best YA series that's out there today, Christian or secular. VERY HIGHLY recommended.

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