



Date : 06/03/2024

Pages : 88

Format cm : 11 x 18

Prix : 9.9

EAN : 9782330188795

Djaïli Amadou Amal

No to Forced Marriage

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Publisher : Actes Sud Jeunesse

Category : Children's Books

Genres : Non-Fiction Children's Books - Children's Chapter Books

Keywords : Emancipation - Literature - Feminism

She was forced into a marriage. Today, as a world-famous novelist (Prix Goncourt des Lycéens in 2020), she is fighting to abolish these barbaric practices.

Cameroon, 1992: a 17-year-old teenage girl is married off to a 54-year-old man, a prominent figure. A few years later, after breaking free from her first forced marriage, Djaïli Amadou Amal manages to escape her second husband, who then kidnaps her daughters. She draws strength from this tragic situation and finds the courage to speak out. She was lucky enough to grow up surrounded by books, so she starts writing to denounce these barbaric traditions. She sets up the "Femmes du Sahel" foundation and fights for the education and emancipation of girls. This novel provides insight into her struggle.