



Whip It

By Shauna Cross

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Roller derby is back, in all of its rowdy and raucous glory

Meet Bliss Cavendar, an indie-rock-loving misfit stuck in the tiny town of Bodeen, Texas. Her pageant-addicted mother expects her to compete for the coveted Miss Bluebonnet crown, but Bliss would rather feast on roaches than be subjected to such rhinestone tyranny.

Bliss's escape? Roller Derby.

When she discovers a league in nearby Austin, Bliss embarks on an epic journey full of hilarious tattooed girls, delicious boys in bands, and a few not-so-awesome realities even the most hard-core derby chick has to learn.

Shauna Cross' *Whip It* is then basis of the 2009 Drew Barrymore film *Whip It*, starring Ellen Page, Alia Shawkat, Marcia Gay Harden and Daniel Stern.

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Whip It By Shauna Cross Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“The novel shines in describing the dashing world of roller derby, where the players are hot and have nasty names like Dinah Might, Eva Destruction and Princess Slaya. [Shauna Cross shows] naked enthusiasm for the edgy, underground sport.” *Publishers Weekly*

“This first-time author combines roller-skating and coming-of-age with a sardonic heroine to create an enjoyable, quick read. Whether Bliss is battling menacing derby mavens or discovering the perils of lying to parents, she is quirky and likeable despite her prickly exterior. . . . Fans of Louise Rennison's Georgia Nicolson books will be pleased with this American counterpart.” *Voice of Youth Advocates*

“Sharp humor dominates this entertaining debut from Cross, who weaves her own experience with roller derby into the fun and traumas of a small-town girl experiencing major rebellion. . . . plenty of laughs and adolescent insights . . . exuberant and insightful.” *Kirkus Reviews*

“Roller derby . . . is conveyed with sexy, enthusiastic energy that injects the whole novel with a warm and authentic vibe.” *The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

About the Author

Shauna Cross's *Whip It* was named an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults and Quick Pick for Young Adults, a YALSA Best Book for Young Adults, and a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age. It is now a major motion picture directed by Drew Barrymore. Cross is a screenwriter and a member of the Los Angeles Derby Dolls roller derby league. She skates under the name "Maggie Mayhem." She grew up in Austin, Texas, and now lives in Los Angeles.

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All I have to do is get around the track five times. I can do this.

I line up, the whistle blows, and I immediately stumble as I take off. I keep skating, fighting my wobbles, and get around the track one time with relative ease (yes!). But then something clicks on the second lap. I lean low into the track, push as hard as I can and—bingo!—I go flying out of the turn at speeds the other girls haven't even touched. For a second, it feels like I might not be able to control the speed, but I bend my knees lower, and manage to go even faster. From there on, the track is mine, I attack it with all I have... At practice, the humiliation factor decreases as my skating improves. Even though I'm covered in bruises aka “derby kisses” I feel surprisingly proud of what I'm learning to do (it's so weird; I'm kind of like a jock). I even sneak out late at night to covertly practice my T-stops and power slides in the driveway, determined to catch up to the other girls.

I love the way the wind whips through my hair as I fly through the turns, sitting low, leaning into the track for maximum speed. My life feels like it has been so slow for so long, it's fun to finally be going fast.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dawn Campbell:

The book *Whip It* makes one feel enjoy for your spare time. You may use it to make your capable far more increase. Book can be your best friend when you are getting pressure or having big problem with your subject. If you can make studying a book *Whip It* to get your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your current capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like open and read an e-book *Whip It*. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or others. So, how do you think about this book?

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