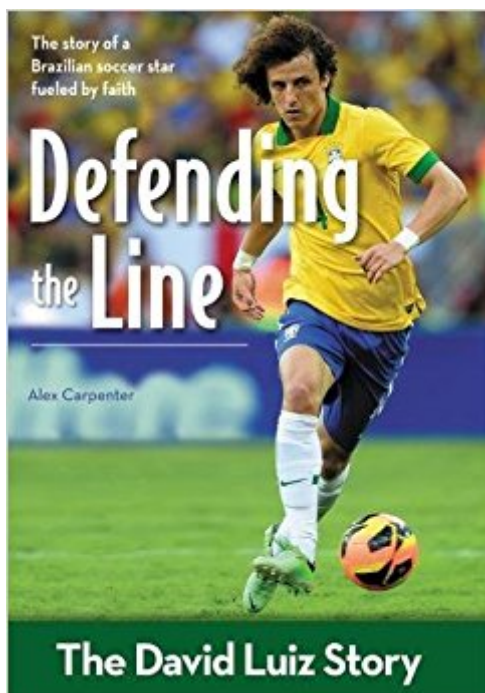


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Defending The Line: The David Luiz Story (ZonderKidz Biography)



Synopsis

"Everything in life belongs to God. Our purpose has already been mapped out." —David Luiz

One of the rising stars in international soccer, David Luiz has been impressing crowds since he was a boy. But it is his faith, not his fame, that drives him to greater success and keeps him —defending the goal.

David made his debut in professional soccer as a left fullback when he was just 19. He was then picked up by Portugal's Benfica team and named player of the year for the 2009-2010 season. As a star defender and vice-captain for the Brazilian National team, David shines both on and off the field, inspiring athletes around the world with his incredible soccer skills and his unwavering faith. David currently plays for England's Chelsea Football Club, one of the premier club teams in the world, and he is expected to play for Brazil in the 2014 World Cup.

Book Information

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

ALEX CARPENTER was born and raised in Brazil but attended an international English-language school, allowing him to be fluent in Portuguese and English. Alex played soccer in high school in Brazil and is a fan of both Brazilian and European soccer. He attended the film school at Biola University and then worked in Hollywood as personal assistant to director Gary Ross (Seabiscuit, The Hunger Games). He later earned an MFA in creative writing from Chapman

University and now teaches English and literature at an inner-city high school in downtown Los Angeles. He and his wife, Lisa, live in Long Beach, California.

It sounded like Alex Carpenter had spent sufficient time with David Luiz to get the feeling for how David was responding to the various situations he faced. I have read quite a few sports biographies and this one just had the feel of a very personal reflection of David's sentiments.

quick ship, as advertised.

I bought this book for my daughter. She loves David Luiz and loves this book.

Jonah my son, loved reading *Defending the Line: The David Luiz Story*. Jonah loves all things soccer. So, when this came along, I knew he would love it. And, of course, I was right. Jonah likes that his faith in God is prevalent and that he wears a certain shirt under his jersey for each game. David thanks God for his wins, and he even praises His name when he loses a game. He loves God on and off the field. David has a charity, named *Acao Social David Luiz*. It is an organization that provides food and special events. Jonah gives *Defending the Line, The David Luiz Story* 5 stars. Jonah says if you love soccer, you will love this book. I received *Defending the Line, The David Luiz Story* from BookLook Bloggers in hopes I would give an honest review on my blog.

This is an inspirational story for children about a role model soccer player. The star of the story is a young man whose name is David Luiz. This young man, turned away from playing on teams for being too scrawny, never gave up on his dream to play international soccer. His faith in God and his determination is what kept him driven. Eventually he made a team in Portugal, which led to playing his defender position for his homeland of Brazil for the 2014 World Cup. The story will appeal to young soccer players, as it uses soccer terminology for the inquisitive mind. The Christian theme, while spread throughout his story, emphasizes David Luiz's faith in God. David Luiz is an excellent example to his young readers. He doesn't forget to help the poor from where he grew up. He proves you can be rich, famous, and humble, at the same time.

I chose this book for my son to read because I grew up in Brazil. I know from experience the importance soccer plays in the lives and culture of those people. Brazilians live, eat, breathe soccer, especially during world cup seasons. I also know how the country needs players who are willing to

stand up for God and really live out their faith. I was hoping my son would not only be impacted by David's faith but also inspired by his ability to rise above his meager beginnings. And he would see how through effort, diligence, and use of the talents God gives each of us, we can make something of our lives. Although, I did not read this entire book myself, I did read some portions to my son, and also helped him along the way. There are many words which are in Portuguese, especially names of teams, associations, towns, stadiums, etc.. My son is nine and just entering the fourth grade, so at times the terminology was tedious. My son is not a die-hard fan of any particular kind of sport, but did seem to enjoy the book, especially once it got into David's life story. He enjoyed the part about David growing up poor and becoming famous. He said it never really tells about David's conversion or salvation, but it does talk about his faith on the field by praying for his teammates and not being ashamed that God is part of his life. I would say though that there is certainly more about soccer in this book than about faith. But the message is clear that David's goal is to give God honor and glory for his position and abilities in soccer. Personally, I would like to know more about the faith side of his life verses the athletic side. I'm giving it 3.5 to 4 stars. This book is marketed for ages 8-12, or aligns with Common Core Standards for grades 6-8. I think the kids on the younger end of that spectrum could use a little help. It certainly came in handy that Portuguese is my second language, and that I understand some of the soccer dynamics from growing up in that country, as well as could explain the locations and what certain words meant. There is a dictionary of sorts for some of the words used to describe foods and other Brazilian things at the beginning of the book. And if you happen to be a die-hard soccer fan, then maybe you will get more out of the terms, teams, leagues, etc, than we did. I received this book from BookLook Bloggers in exchange for my unbiased opinion. No other compensation given and I was not required to give a positive review.

About the Book: "Everything in life belongs to God. Our purpose has already been mapped out." David Luiz One of the rising stars in international soccer, David Luiz has been impressing crowds since he was a boy. But it is his faith, not his fame, that drives him to greater success and keeps him defending the goal. David made his debut in professional soccer as a left fullback when he was just 19. He was then picked up by Portugal's Benfica team and named player of the year for the 2009-2010 season. As a star defender and vice-captain for the Brazilian National team, David shines both on and off the field, inspiring athletes around the world with his incredible soccer skills and his unwavering faith. David currently plays for England's Chelsea Football Club, one of the premier club teams in the world, and he is expected to play for Brazil in the 2014 World Cup. "My Review: This day in time, I'm sure it is hard to live out your faith--so publicly, at least. Especially

when you are a celebrity. Brazilian soccer player, David Luiz, can relate to this better than anyone. David is a world renowned soccer player from Brazil that plays professionally. But while that is very important to him, his faith means so much more. The book shares the story of this very sweet young man that puts God first, but it also share with us the love of soccer that the people have. It even gives you a little bit of the history of soccer in that country. David came from meager beginnings, so its very touching to see this young man honor God in everything that he does. His faith is an encouragement to young and old alike. I am glad to see another celebrity living out there faith in front of my children, we need others that are just as courageous as he. ****Disclosure**** This book was sent to me free of charge for my honest review from the publisher.

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