**Summary: *A Girl Named Disaster***

**For my Africa book I read A Girl Named Disaster. This book is about a girl named Nhamo. She lives in Africa in a place called Mozambique. When cholera hits her village they visit the Muvuki. The Muvuki says that the only way to get rid of the horrible disease is for Nhamo it marry the Ngozi. A Ngozi is an angry spirit. This Ngozi is the spirit of the man that Nhamo’s father killed. Nhamo’s grandmother tells her to run away to Zimbabwe. Nhamo doesn’t want to leave because her grandmother is sick but she also doesn’t want to disobey her elders. That night she steals supplies and sets out in a small row boat.**

**On her way she makes up stories and teaches herself to hunt and fish. She makes her own traps and on one island she builds a tree for. She sails for months and stops at many different islands. Eventually she finds land where people are living. Some are nice and others are not. They tell her how to get into Zimbabwe. Nhamo sets off on the trail they told her about. She uses elephant tracks to maneuver through land mines. Then a storm rolls in.**

**Nhamo finds an abandoned hut so she can get out of the rain. A scientist/doctor finds her there. She takes her back to the rest of the scientists. They take Nhamo in as their own and call her Wild Child. They even help her find her family. In the end Nhamo life is pretty good but there will always be people missing.**

**Recommendation**

**I liked *A Girl Named Disaster.* Although it is not a book I would read again. I read this book because a friend recommended it to me. I liked it because it had a little mystery to it and I learned some things about the Shona culture. You can learn about Bride Price (Roora), totems, and what is important in the Shona culture. It had good detail and I liked the author’s style. You really get to know what Nhamo thinks of thing and she isn’t afraid to speak her mind. I also enjoyed reading about Nhamo’s stories and dreams. I would recommend this book to anyone that has to or wants to read an Africa book or wants an exciting story. This book is also very cultural and the author has very good details for the things that they are doing and why things are certain ways. Like why when the girls become women they go away and shave their heads. So if you like history or cultural books *A Girl Named Disaster* would be a good book to read. They use words that are very specific to Africa and I liked that it had a “dictionary” in the back. It also had some back ground information on key topics from the book. I would not recommend this book to readers that like high adventure, but *A Girl Named Disaster* would be good for people that like fantasy because of some of Nhamo’s dreams. So if you are looking for a cultural book that you can learn from and want a story you can really feel like you’re part of *A Girl Named Disaster* would be a good book to read.**