I read a Girl Named Trouble; it is a book about a girl. Her name is Nhamo and she lives in a little village that hunts and gathers food to survive. She lives on Africa. One day her best friend in the village wakes up early and picks up her sleeping mat and then heads to the “elder’s” hut and Nhamo was intrigued and later she asked the girl why she had left so early. And her friend tells her that now she is a woman. Nhamo is amazed she is older than her friend but she isn’t a woman yet! (In their village you are a woman when you have your period.) When Nhamo goes to get wood for the cooking fires she thinks that she sees a leopard and she waits, without moving until the moon comes out and shows her that it was just a bush at the edge of the river. When she gets back to the village she tells them the story but she twists it and says that it growled at her. Everyone in the village is instantly nervous and they order for a naganga to come and check Nhamo for possibility of her being a witch. Then they change their minds a week later and head to the “American’s” village and pay for an even more powerful naganga to see why Nhamo has seen the leopard again under a tree the night before. He says that her father killed a man and they never paid the full price for his death and now his spirit is wanting revenge, either they kill Nhamo or she marries the dead man’s brother, who is a slob and already has two wives. Nhamo is horrified and her grandmother stands up for her. (Her mom and dad are dead.) And when they get back to her village her grandmother tells her to take the only boat and some food and to take the only boat and sail to Zimbabwe. And the rest of the book is about her choice to follow her grandmother’s instructions.

I liked the book because it was very detailed about Nhamo’ s personality, the author spent a lot of time describing Nhamo so that you could imagine her and better relate to the story and what she goes through. Nhamo was very creative in describing how she felt and how she thought about things was very interesting, she was always thinking about how her ancestors were guiding her. She was full of ideas on how to get to Zimbabwe, and how to survive when she met a new challenge along the way, she used her prior knowledge to help her to survive and to keep on going. The book was written really well, it described how the village looked to Nhamo when she was preparing to sail to Zimbabwe, and see her father who she had never seen before. (Unfriendly and quiet, forbidding and soundless, and the author used very good descriptive words to help to give you a mental image of the things that Nhamo saw, like people and shops in the market, and did, waded across the water and scavenged for sticks.)Another reason that I liked the book is because I was interested to find out about African lifestyle and how they lived in a tribe or village. I was slightly intrigued when I found out that the only use a girl had was to get married and have a family. If you had a girl the only reason that you would keep the baby is because when they get married the man that marries her would have to pay an arrora. (It was often an animal, like a cow, pig, chicken, bull, or other such animal.) If you like adventure/ suspense books or books about somebody that takes a journey to an unknown place, full of mysteries and new sights and people, and some scary close calls with an unknown force that will change her life forever, for better or for worse, then I think that you will like A Girl Named Trouble.