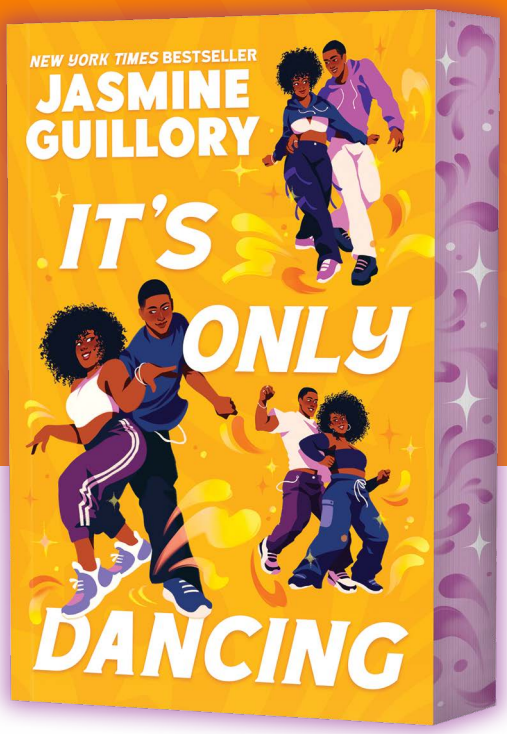

BOOK GUIDE

IT'S ONLY DANCING

BY JASMINE GUILLORY

It's Only Dancing
By Jasmine Guillory
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Also available in audio
Ages 12 & Up • Grades 7 & Up
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The Story

It's the summer before her senior year of high school, and Kat (Kitty to her family) planned to spend it reading good books, working on her college applications, and enjoying her independence. Instead, she's stuck for an entire month with her family at a camp in the deserts of Southern California.

When she stumbles across a staff party on the first night, she's jealous of their joyful, uninhibited dancing. She hasn't danced like that since two years ago, when she was forced to quit ballet, which she once loved more than anything. She's determined to leave dance where it belongs—the past.

But Jordan, the handsome and magnetic hip-hop dance instructor, keeps dragging it into her present. As Kat begins sneaking around and lying to her parents to spend time with Jordan, she'll have to ask herself—what is she willing to risk to finally feel free? And is it possible her feelings for Jordan could reignite her love for dance?

Reading Group Questions

1. Why do you think Kat feels she can't tell her family the truth about her dancing? Do you think she's honest with herself? With others?
2. Why is Kat's independence so important to her, and what do you think threatens that independence? How does she learn to balance her autonomy with her connections to others?
3. What do you think is the significance of the title, *It's Only Dancing*? What does dance mean to Kat and Jordan, and what does it represent in their relationship?
4. How important is the setting in this story? What about Camp Ochoa z the story and the characters' decisions?

About the Author

Photo © Andrea Scher.

Jasmine Guillory is a *New York Times* bestselling author. *It's Only Dancing* is her first novel for young adults. Her other novels include *The Wedding Date*, *The Proposal* (a Reese's Book Club pick), and *Flirting Lessons*. Her work has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Bon Appétit*, and *Time*. Jasmine is a frequent book contributor on the *Today* show. She lives in Oakland, California. You can find her online at JasmineGuillory.com.

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