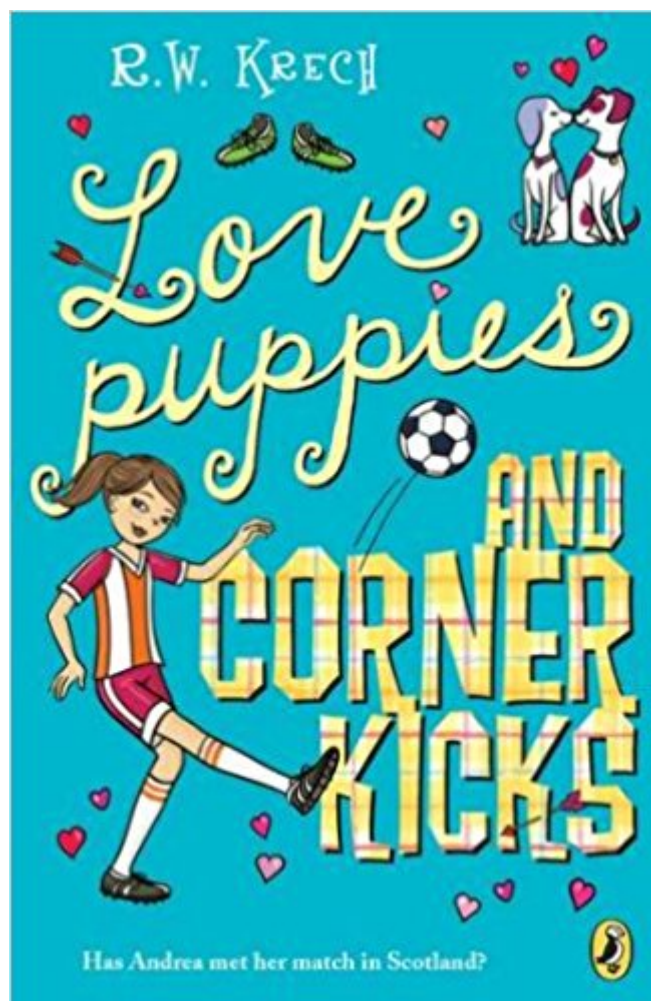




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# Love Puppies And Corner Kicks



## Synopsis

Andrea's life is pretty close to perfect-she's the leading scorer on her soccer team, has great friends, and can't wait to start a new school year. Then her parents ruin everything by announcing that the family is moving to Scotland for a whole year! When Andrea gets there, she has to deal with a haunted castle, her stuttering problem, and some tough new soccer friends-who might not accept that the boy she is crushing on plays for a rival team. It's a perfect middle-grade tale of friendship, sports, and first love.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,587,714 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #75 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Soccer](#) #3617 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Being a Teen](#)

## Customer Reviews

Grade 5  
•Andrea loves soccer, words, her two best friends, and her life. Unfortunately, she must go to Scotland with her parents, where her father will be an exchange teacher at Dunnotar Academy. Andrea has to deal with her crush and her schoolwork even as she tries to impress the tough girls on the soccer team. Meanwhile, the stutter she thought she'd conquered has come back, but she has techniques for coping with it. Andrea is a likable character with whom kids will identify. Her escapades are full of realistic choices and humorous consequences. However, the portrayal of Scottish culture is slight. An entertaining read for those who enjoyed Lauren Myracle's *Luv Ya Bunches* (Abrams, 2009).  
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"This is a great book for students who can relate to being in a new school." -Library Media

Connection, starred review

Having lived abroad for many years, I think that this is a very accurate picture of how attitudes change after spending time in a different place. Of course in this book, it is done in a very sensitive and pleasant manner with the relationship between Andrea and Stewart.

This book was amazing. I had started to read it in fourth grade and now I'm in fifth grade and when I was in fourth grade I stopped reading it but I started it again in fifth grade finished it and absolutely loved it

The book love puppies and corner kicks is a great funny and lesson learning story. This book is good for ages 8 to any age

arrived in time for Christmas, even though it took forever to get here. This one was on my nieces xmas list.

As a mother who screens everything her 11-year-old daughter reads, and who \*has\* been to Scotland (albeit for just a day, backpacking through the United Kingdom - EONS ago), "Love Puppies and Corner Kicks" totally brought back everything I still LOVE about the experience, including and especially trying to keep my jaw from dropping at the British - er, Scottish, way of phrasing things. I could tell that the writer is an American who had a grand time in Scotland - but, reading the book as written by "R. W. Krech", I didn't realise the writer is actually a guy! Bob Krech (as printed on the paperback) certainly has some perceptive insights into the psych of a teenage girl! Both sides of the pond! It was a fun story, similar in substance to the excellent "The Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z." (previously reviewed), but much lighter in treatment, and I appreciate the way Andrea's parents' concern of her "love" life was handled. As a conservative parent with only one daughter, I don't see how I could possibly condone serious boy-girl relationships in middle school - not even high school! - but I can see how being in a different country can justify some lowering of inhibitions! (So I tell said daughter) ... A happy, fun read. In the words of said daughter: "The book, 'Love Puppies and Corner Kicks' by R.W. Krech is a great, humorous book." Andrea has all she could possibly want in New Jersey. She's the lead scorer of her soccer team, she has great friends and she can't wait to start a new school year. Then, the bomb is dropped. She and her family are moving to Scotland. For a year. Soon, Andrea is faced with experiences like living with her principal,

wearing a raincoat that bursts into flames, sneaking into a haunted castle, being a member of the notorious Tough Girls Football Club and secretly crushing on the incredibly cute Stewart McCombie. Even with all this, Scotland might be okay if she could just control the little problem that she fears most of all ..."I would totally recommend this book to anyone who loves humorous five-star books with cute vocabulary words, a sweet ending and, of course, love puppies."

Thirteen-year-old Andrea DiLorenzo likes her life just fine. She's got two best friends, girls she's known all of her life and with whom she's shared everything. She's the leading goal scorer on her travel soccer team. Things are all around good. Then her parents make 'the announcement.' Her father, who teaches high school English, has signed up for an international teacher exchange program. For the next year, the DiLorenzo family will be living in Scotland. Her father says it's a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity. Her mother insists it will be wonderful and memorable. But Andrea knows the truth. There is no way she can survive in a country that worships a revolting food like haggis. And at first, it looks like all of her worst fears are bound to come true. The first girl she meets is a full-on weirdo. There is no girls' soccer team at the lower school of Dunnotar Academy. And the icing on the cake? Her stutter has gone critical - totally out of control. If Andrea's going to make it, she's going to have to survive a burning raincoat, a haunted castle and the cutest boy she's ever met. It's going to be a long year. Love Puppies and Corner Kicks is a sweet, funny story about adjusting to life outside of your comfort zone. There is nothing earth-shattering or new here, but there really doesn't need to be. The target audience - girls in the 11 to 14 age range - are sure to enjoy Andrea's triumphs and sympathize with her struggles. This is a fun read; quick, quirky and perfect for tweens.

I picked this book up because I need more books to recommend to kids, and this one seemed cute. It was. It is about Andrea. She is in 7th grade, and she is moving to Scotland for a year. Of course this is not something she wants to do. All of her friends are in New Jersey, as well as her soccer team. Plus, she has a stuttering problem that she is more able to control around people she has known her whole life. Putting her into a new setting can't possibly help the stuttering. So now she is in Scotland, trying to not let people know she stutters, trying to make new friends, and maybe even trying to catch the eye of a boy she likes. Wanna know what happens? Go ahead and read it. Yes, it is a pretty predictable book, but it is still cute. It is great for girls 4-6 grade or any kid who struggles with stuttering. As an added bonus, Andrea uses a lot of large vocabulary words and gives the definitions, so kids should learn a thing or two as well!

Andrea's father is an English teacher in New Jersey; however, he is a part of a teacher-exchange program that moves the family to Scotland for the year. Andrea has to learn another language, or so it seems, as well as learn how to "fit in". BUT, she has one thing on her side...she is a phenomenal soccer player. While navigating the angst of growing up, meeting new people, having a crush, and putting up with her younger sister, Andrea must keep all things together - before it gets the better of her.

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