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When Cocoy Became Kikay



Synopsis

As the daughter of Colonel Miguel Suarez, Maria Francisca 'Cocoy' Suarez was raised to think like a soldier. Cocoy's not-so-secret dream is to one day become a gun-toting, ass-kicking secret agent. But she has another dream—and this time, even her best friends don't have a clue—she dreams of being with someone. Problem is, she finds out that Jaime Arguelles, a.k.a. the guy she's been secretly crushing on for years, likes girls who well like pink. To Cocoy's logical mind, there's only one solution: it's time to go girly. After all, how hard can it be?

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Customer Reviews

The title threw me off just a little, to be honest. I thought it was a story of a young boy who wanted to physically become a girl. Turns out that while that would be a very interesting story, When Cocoy Became Kikay tells a completely different tale of a teenage girl's transformation. Cocoy is one of the boys, and she is happy in her skin, thank you very much. That is, until she falls in crush with the one and only Jaime Arguelles, the boy next door who prefers girls

who wear pink and maybe a tiny bit of lipgloss. To get him to even see her as a girl, Cocoy felt she needed to start looking like one for a start, and thus begins her adventure. Some of the turns in the book felt familiar, not because they were annoyingly predictable, but because Cocoy felt like someone I knew, or maybe someone I *have* been at one point in my (definitely less colorful) adolescence. Santi writes the character as if Cocoy is someone she loves, someone she roots for, and that is palpable in the narrative. The inside of Cocoy's head is a bright, funny place, and I love being inside of it. The ending was a topic of discussion for me and my friend, but it felt right to me. It felt deserved and comforting, just like a spread of pandesal, Chippy, and Nutella on a bad day.

4.5 stars rounded up to 5
The story of Cocoy is a sweet, YA one that shows the journey of a young girl who all her life knew what she wanted till a boy came in to shake things up. Of course. But the ones who stand out in this story are Cocoy's gang of friends - the boys she plays basketball with, watches movies with, and basically just hangs out with. I loved how they really had her back, made fun of her, and obviously cared about her. Though sometimes the language felt a bit old for a 16 year old protagonist, the story is spot on. I also loved the whole military brat angle. Such an enjoyable read AND I'm so thrilled to know there's a sequel coming!

This ebook is awesome. I personally know the writer C.P. Santi, since she was my high school classmate back in the Philippines. A very witty, funny, true-to-life happenings kind of book. This book showed a lot of heart and experiences that a teenage girl goes through in finding herself while growing up.

Cocoy is the only daughter of the late, highly-revered military officer, Col. Miguel Suarez, and acts like a tomboy. She's friend with three great guys, Paulo, Dags & Joel. They've been friends for as long as they can remember, and together, they're a riot. Cocoy, whose real name is Maria Francisca Suarez, has a secret though. Despite the macho persona she exudes, deep inside is a heart capable of crushing on one cute, tall, dark and handsome, Jaime Arguelles. A dare to prove her friends wrong started. She wore pink, dressed up like a girl, had a total make-over. So from Cocoy, she became kikay, she became Maria. And the mission: to make Jaime notice her and eventually, fall in love with her. Things went smoothly as planned. Until she finally discovered the truth about Jaime's personality. Will there still be a happily ever after for

her? Here's another cute and sweet story from one of my favorite Pinay authors, C.P. Santi. I enjoyed reading her first book, *Be Careful What You Wish For* last year and had wished to read a new one from her. And I wasn't dismayed. Because now here's another sure-fire hit from C.P. Santi, *When Cocoy Became Kikay*. I loved this story because not only is it so cute and romantic, there is reality in the events that transpired. Cocoy turning into Maria is no easy feat, I have had friends who went to the same transformation, only to have their hearts broken in the end. I'm not saying there isn't a happy ending in Cocoy's life though. There is more to her life than that. Like her friends and family. *When Cocoy Became Kikay* is a feel-good story I'd highly recommend to hopeless romantics. C.P. Santi wrote again another kilig story at its best, filled with romance, funny heroine, loveable friends, and tons of character development!

received an ARC in exchange for an honest review via Filipino Friday THIS WAS SO FREAKING CUTE. It's the first I've read of the author, but I'm already in love. It's a story centered around young adults about to start their own lives after high school, but with graduation months away, tests and life goals aren't the only thing on Cocoy's mind. She wants to see her dream come true, and what better plan than to put her military training to use? Filled with first love, tough decisions, and amazing friends and family, this is a very touching story around a girl who does whatever it takes to get the boy she loves. She learns a lot of things on the way, and the ending left me wanting more. I definitely recommend this to those who love romance, a good steady pace, and comedic moments.

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