

THALITA REBOUÇAS - FOREIGN RIGHTS - OCTOBER 2009

BOOK

Title: *Fala sério, mãe!*

(Title free translation: *Speak seriously, Mom!* or *Awww, come on, Mom!* or *Give me a break, Mom!*)

Author: Thalita Rebouças

Nº of pages: 176

Format: 14x21cm

Illustrations: none

Target Audience: Readers above 12 years



SERIES

The book's plot is fully resolved. It has been followed by a sequence of related titles:

Retratos de Malu series: *Fala sério, mãe!* (2004) • *Fala sério, professor!* (2006)

• *Fala sério, amor!* (2007) • *Fala sério, amiga!* (2008) • *Fala sério, pai!* (2009)

Malu's Portrait Series: *Speak seriously, Mom!* • *Speak seriously, teacher!* • *Speak seriously, love!*

• *Speak seriously, my friend!* • *Speak seriously, Dad!*

COPIES SOLD SO FAR – In Brazil

400 thousand (all)

RIGHTS SOLD (publisher and country)

Editora Rocco (Brazil, 2004)

Editorial Presença (Portugal, 2009)

THE AUTHOR'S OTHER TITLES

Meninas do Barulho series: *Tudo por um pop star* • *Tudo por um namorado* • *Tudo por um feriado*
(Editora Rocco, Brazil) - readers 9 and up

• *Traição entre amigas* (Editora Rocco, Brazil) - readers 12 and up

• *Uma fada veio me visitar* (Editora Rocco, Brazil) - readers 9 and up

Messy Girls series: *Anything for a popstar* • *Anything for a boyfriend* • *Anything for a holiday*

• *Betraying among friends*

• *A fairy came to visit me*

THE AUTHOR'S BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Thalita Rebouças was born in 1974, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As a child, she used to call herself 'a book maker', given her enjoyment when playing as a writer. Holding a degree in Journalism, she decided to leave newspaper offices in order to dedicate herself to literature. At present, Thalita Rebouças is one of Brazil's most accessible writer. She keeps daily contact with teenagers, her main readers, through her site www.thalita.com, as well as through *facebook*, *twitter* and *orkut*, where dozens of Thalita's reading communities can be found.

BRIEFING - *Fala sério, mãe!*

As everybody knows, being a mother is a heavenly pain. That is a popular saying, as we well know. But... what can be said about children's feelings? Don't they share their bit of martyrdom in that relationship? In *Fala sério, mãe!*, Thalita Rebouças presents both sides of the coin: on side one, we can find Angela Cristina, a proud mother, whose complaints and joys are linked by her slightly stressed view on her eldest daughter, Maria de Lourdes, nicknamed Malu. On the other side, there is a stubborn Malu, who complains against Angela Cristina's demanding behavior, derived from her exaggerated motherly care.

In order to reveal both points-of-view, our author makes use of a strategy: the book's first part is narrated by the mother, covering the period between pregnancy and her daughter's 13th birthday; the narrating voice is then passed on to the girl, in a highly smart and sensitive way. 'It is the girl who yields her place, not to the woman, but to a beautiful teenager. My youngster (...) is proud of her ideas and ideals; she teaches me a lot daily, and expresses herself clearly and coherently through gestures, attitudes and, above all, through words. Yes, I said words. From now on, I am sure that she can already speak for herself.'

At this very moment the second speaker shows up: Malu herself tells readers about a love-and-hatred relationship with her motherly figure, according to her own view. She goes on till the end of the story, which finishes on her 21st birthday.

The book's good-humored chronicles cover daily – and healthy – disagreements that usually prevail between mothers and her daughters. Arguments between Malu and Angela are sometimes deeply serious and relevant. At some other times, their talking is irrelevant and funny. All talks, however, are filled with love. That allows both women to keep growing up and getting even closer.

MAIN CHARACTERS

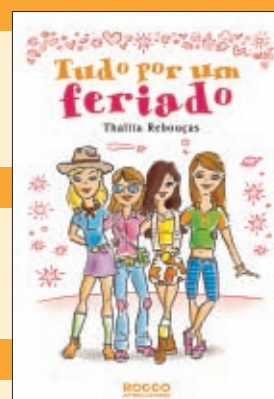
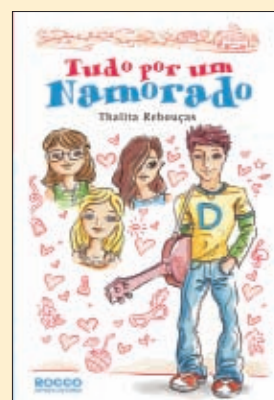
Malu (a young daughter who opens the book as a fetus, closing the story at the age of 21); Angela Cristina (her mother, unrevealed age)

SETTING

The story takes place at an urban environment, a middle-class neighborhood in Rio de Janeiro.

WRITING STYLE

There are two first-person speakers: the first part of the story is narrated by Angela Cristina (the mother); the second part is told by Malu (her daughter). Their active talking exchange is good-humored, and at the same time literary (proposing serious thoughts on family relationship) and commercial (providing plenty of laughing).



WHY DO YOU THINK THIS WOULD APPEAL TO A INTERNATIONAL READER?

Everywhere and at all times, laughing provides relevant thinking and rethinking about real life around us. In that sense, a book such as *Fala sério, mãe!*, which bets on comic issues in order to raise conscious awareness, should be well read everywhere. The story deals specifically with mother-and-daughter relationship, a topic that mingles pleasure and conflict not only in Brazil, but also in the United Kingdom, in the United States, anywhere on earth.



ADDITIONAL PUBLICITY INFORMATION / REVIEWS

– *Fala sério, mãe!* and *Fala sério, pai!* – included twice in the list of Brazilian best sellers, according to the largest Brazilian newspaper – O Globo – and to Época magazine.

– *Fala sério, amor!* was included in O Globo newspaper’s best-selling list.

– *Fala sério, mãe!* – the book-based play was also highly successful among teens.

– The author takes part in various television programs when launching her new titles; she also offers school talks and lectures all over the country, from north to south.

By promoting her books, she also stimulates reading in general, as a pleasant activity.

– The author describes and analyses teenagers' living world for *Atrevida* magazine (800 thousand issues per month).

– Notes of appraisal on *Fala sério, mãe!* and her other books can be regularly found in newspapers and magazines in Brazil and Portugal.



COVERS IN PORTUGAL

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