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# Play With Fire: Discovering Fierce Faith, Unquenchable Passion, And A Life-Giving God



## **Synopsis**

Play with Fire, the debut book by popular speaker and teacher Bianca Juarez Olthoff, is the reminder that God isn't waiting until you have more resources or a spouse or a job so he can use you. He's ready to use you now. Using the mythical creature the phoenix, which was also referenced by early church leaders, she parallels this story with God's work in her own life, highlighting the beauty of reinvention with fire as both the impetus and the method for change. Olthoff reminds us that we serve a god who is redemptive and can take the worst situations and use them for his glory. Play with Fire is a Bible-infused message that will help women discover: The way out of the middle is moving forward The personal and powerful nature of the Holy Spirit The power and sacrifice of transformation The unique calling and purpose of life involves transformation With Olthoff's distinct style, strong storytelling gifts, and powerful Bible teaching, Play with Fire will remind listeners that God has huge dreams for them. In Bianca's words, "He's whispering in the wind and speaking through the fire and shouting in silence the extraordinary dream he is birthing in you. His dream for you is far greater than the dream you have for yourself. It's not your identity or income or influence that will make this happen. Like Zechariah 4:6 says, 'It's not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord." It's time to play with fire.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Ever since Bianca came to speak at the women's conference at my church, I have followed her on social media and listened to her messages every time a new one popped up on YouTube. She is

gifted with the ability to speak to all generations with a rawness that is hard to find these days. Play with Fire is no different. It's almost as if she is speaking personally to me as I read this book. Many, including myself at times, mistakenly think that become a Christian is easy or that you have no bad moments because you believe in God and Jesus Christ. On the contrary, there are many moments where we are put into the fire and need God's strength to carry us through but it's almost like we're too scared to talk about it. Bianca's words are comforting and remind me that EVERYONE has to go through the fire at some point. Thank you, Bianca, for having the courage to share some of the most intimate moments with your walk with God to inspire me and everyone that comes in contact with this book to keep moving forward through the fire!

I truly enjoyed this book. I read it almost nonstop therefore finished it pretty quick. I wasn't sure what to expect but was very impressed by Bianca's straight forwardness and that she didn't hold back. I love that she is so transparent with her life. You will need to have tissues handy. It was very inspirational and I hope she will continue writing"

I started reading right after I received the shipment, I fell in Love with Bianca Juarez Olthoff the minute I saw her fiesty self at our churches IF stimulcast this spring, and then learning she was with Cristine Caine, I knew there was an extra connect. Love the Passion and the style of which this book is written. Thank you Bianca Juarez Olthoff for an amazing passionate belief foundation. One day I hope to meet you in person. Love love love.

Bianca book Play with Fire, is a needed resource for women. In a time where we can feel like we have to put up walls and pretend to be something we are not, Bianca has you crying through the whole book with her honest, real transparency of her personal struggles as well as her trust in God. I loved her imagery and her story telling as she authors her life as authentically as possible. This book is a great resource for women all over the world! I cannot wait to sit down with my friends and read it together and share our own stories along side Bianca's. I absolutely loved it and it will be in my resource library for many women to read.

Bianca gives us a candid look into her own personal life (struggles and all)! In Play with Fire, she shows the world how God can refine you without you getting burned! Her honesty about her life and the anguish of her mother's illness had me in tears. And the beauty of how God worked in Bianca's life, and her mother's faith in God also had me in tears! Play With Fire gives hope to even the most

skeptical reader. I heartily recommend Play With Fire to anyone looking to build a closer relationship with God! Read the book and keep tissues handy!

When we forget about what God has done, it makes us doubt what He can do. (p132) Play With Fire, by Bianca Olthoff, is such a treasure of a book. It felt like more than just a book though. It felt like a soul opening up and sharing the deepest parts of a heart made whole. This is real life right here – nothing shallow or artificial – but real, raw stories from people just like you and me. Stories of faith, perseverance and transformation. Bianca is such a fabulous storyteller and she has an amazing ability to take each story and learn more about God and life and love through it and in Play With Fire, she shares those stories and those lessons with us. This book moves fast. It took me maybe a day and half to read the whole thing – which is a testament to the author's skillful writing, but also to the power of her stories. These stories are so very moving. Stories of loss, grief, fear, illness and everything in between take the reader on a journey through Bianca's life and also through our own stories. Her tone and style of writing is so relatable, I found myself remembering my own experiences in parallel to hers. If you have never seen or heard Bianca speak, you need to. This woman is fierce and fun and such a wonderful communicator. I have been looking forward to this book for a long time and it absolutely exceeded my expectations. If you have ever found yourself in a period of fear, grief or desert wandering, Play With Fire can help you realize the truth of God's faithfulness and your own value as one of His own. Some of my favorite quotables from Play With Fire: "In the desert seasons of life, we must root into the goodness of God, into being known and loved by God. We need to be rooted in our identities as the treasured and loved creations of a merciful and divine Creator. We store these truths, allow them to spur growth, to deepen our roots, to bring us to bloom in even the most trying terrain." (p41) "When we surrender our control, we hand God not only our faith, but also our fear. We don't need to worry about the people who want to silence us, oppress us, or enslave us. We only need to stand firm on the promises of God and discover that He is mighty to save." (p73) "the abundant life didn't mean I got to skip the desert. It meant I could experience abundance in the midst of the desert." (p86) "And here's the truth – we cannot worship God for the gifts of freedom and salvation without having known captivity and desolation first. When we know the cost of our freedom, it drives our worship. True worship almost always happens in the desert wilderness, and praise is almost always the answer to a plea that rises up in us while we are in the desert." (p106-107) "while the enemy knows our name, he calls us by our sin. But God knows our sin, but calls us by our name."

Sometimes a reminder of who we are is stronger than a rebuke of what we are not. (p119) When people are in pain or grieving, the last thing they need is a spoonful of religious syrup. (p124) The fulfillment of God's promises comes when we have the boldness to enter into the fire and embrace the transformation that takes place. (p180) Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from the publisher through the BookLook Bloggers book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 < [...]> : Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising

This book warms the soul. Bianca Olthoff goes deep to get to your heart. She offers council without criticism. She believes your trial is preparation for triumph. Her theological insight and her homegirl hilarity kept me so fully engaged, I read it in one long all nighter. And then I zombied my way to Starbucks the next morning for a Venti Triple Shot Extra Caramel Macchiato with two preschoolers in tow. Worth it. Bianca is one of those rare authors who encourages with grace, truth, and a swift kick in the tail. And you walk away for the better. That's a holy gift. I know there are so many faith based books to choose from these days. But if you have time for only one, let this light the way!

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