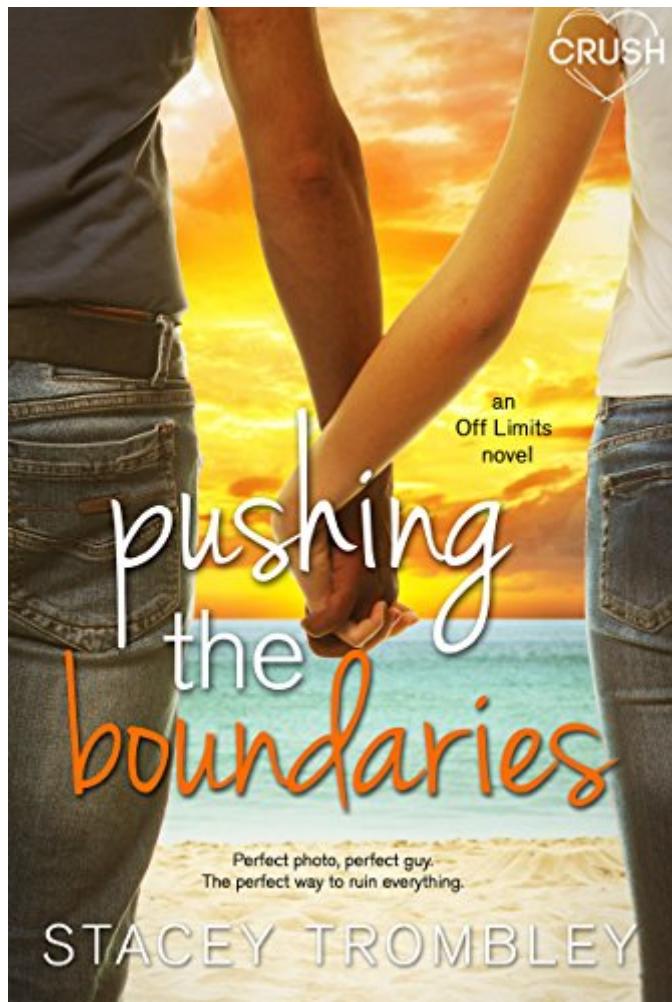


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# Pushing The Boundaries (Off Limits)



## **Synopsis**

Myra goes to Haiti with one goal: take the photograph that will win a scholarship and prove to her uber-traditional family that she has what it takes to be a photographer instead of a doctor. Her camera has always been her shield against getting too close to anyone, but she didn't expect the hot teen translator who has an ability to see past her walls. Elias needs his job as a translator to provide for his siblings. He can't afford to break the rule forbidding him from socializing with a client. Except this girl Myra insists on going outside the city to capture the perfect picture, and he steps in as her guide in order to keep her safe. The deeper they travel into the country, the harder they fall for each other. Now they're both taking risks that could cost each other their dreams. If they get too close, it could ruin both their lives. Disclaimer: Caution! Reading this book will open your heart and inspire you to take risks. Only those searching for true love should proceed.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Book Review- Pushing the Boundaries by Stacey Trombley Myra has arrived in Haiti with her mother

and the medical volunteers. They will be running the clinic for a few days. Myra's mother wants her to be a doctor but Myra's passion is photography. She wants to go to art school. Her mother would never understand or let her go. Elias is the driver and interpreter hired to help the Americans. He knows he is very lucky to have this job to support his family. He has been warned by Mr. Rowland to keep everything professional. He catches Myra's eye and tells her friend in English that he is cute. However she is embarrassed when she realizes he understood her. Her mother is not happy either. Myra knows she will hear about it later. Myra is warned about the inappropriate boy and her behavior. Her mother is keeping a close eye on her and she has to be good. Her goal is to go out and see the real Haiti. Elias is also warned about keeping his distance. However he and Myra run across each other on the roof patio. He sees the real her and she is shocked. She is also intrigued. He offers to show her the real Haiti. Unfortunately things don't go as planned as Myra battles with her mother and Elias fears losing his job. When Myra decides to do it herself, she realizes she has no clue what she has gotten herself into. Elias comes to her rescue and the day they have is wonderful. Then everything falls apart around them. Myra has to decide if what she wants is worth fighting for. The storyline of this book was fascinating. The author brings different cultures into play that conflict. Myra's mother being from Pakistan has her views that Myra fights against. She is American and hates the strict ties her mother tries to bind her with. She wants to choose her own future. That is a huge conflict present in the story. It adds to Myra's choices, drive and character. Then add in the Haitian culture and see how poor the country truly is. The author shows the reader exactly what is happening. Elias supports his family with a job that is rare. It is hard to fathom the situation his life presents. Myra views Haiti from an American point of view which adds to the story. She doesn't fully understand and that is difficult for Elias. This plot has obvious avenues the author takes the reader, but there are underlying issues that bring out more of the complexity to the story. There are deeper issues at play. It was a great read. I recommend it. I give it a 4 out of 5.

Pushing the Boundaries has a fairly unique premise--a Pakistani American girl goes (against her will) with her doctor mother on a service trip to Haiti to work in a medical clinic and becomes involved with their teenaged Haitian interpreter/.driver, and problems ensue. Myra and Elias are from different worlds--literally--and it seems as if their relationship can't realistically be more than a bittersweet memory of a first love experience...or can it? I enjoyed a look into a different world--like Myra, I wanted to see what Haiti looked like beyond the clinic and rented home she was shuttled between, thought the way she chooses to get out nearly causes more problems than positive

experiences. Her self-centeredness and tendency to think of herself first and of others (maybe) second made her difficult to like at times, though she does grow up more toward the end, garnering more sympathy for her character. Elias is much easier to like overall, though his chapters tended to be too short to really get to know him and his life as much as I'd like to. There's a touch of insta-love here (though it is their "first love" experience, so that's not exactly out of character) and I'm still processing how I feel about the way things are left at the end--a too quick and easy solution? The rich Americans coming in and making everything all better?--the jury's still out on that part. This is being billed as the first in a series, and if the other book(s) are going to continue Myra and Elias's story, I am interested in seeing where it is going to go. Rating: 3 1/2 stars / C+I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book.

I was given this book for a honest opinion. Pushing Boundaries is about a girl, Myra, a Pakistani American, who goes to Haiti with her mother on a medical internship for a vaccination clinic. What her mother doesn't know is Myra wants to be a photographer and the only reason she is in Haiti is to appease her mother and maybe capture a great picture so she can win a scholarship to her dream school. This is where she meets Elias, their interpreter, who needs the job to feed his family. The biggest rule to his job is *Ã¢ÂœdonÃ¢Â™t get close to the Americans*, but Elias didn't expect to meet Myra, and he can't seem to keep from getting close to her. I enjoyed this book. I have read a lot of the Entangle Crush books, but this one is completely different than all of the others. I would rate this author among the top of the Crush writers. I like the idea of the book and the setting. I love that it's set in another country. I love that the author chose Haiti and real down to earth characters. Too many time authors choose to write about rich snobby guys. Don't get me wrong, I love the arc type, but it was a breath of fresh air to read about Elias, his life and country pride. He is down to earth and hard working. I love him. I can't say I love Myra though. I wish I had felt more of a connection with her. Overall, I think the book was well written and was a good read. I give it four stars overall.

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