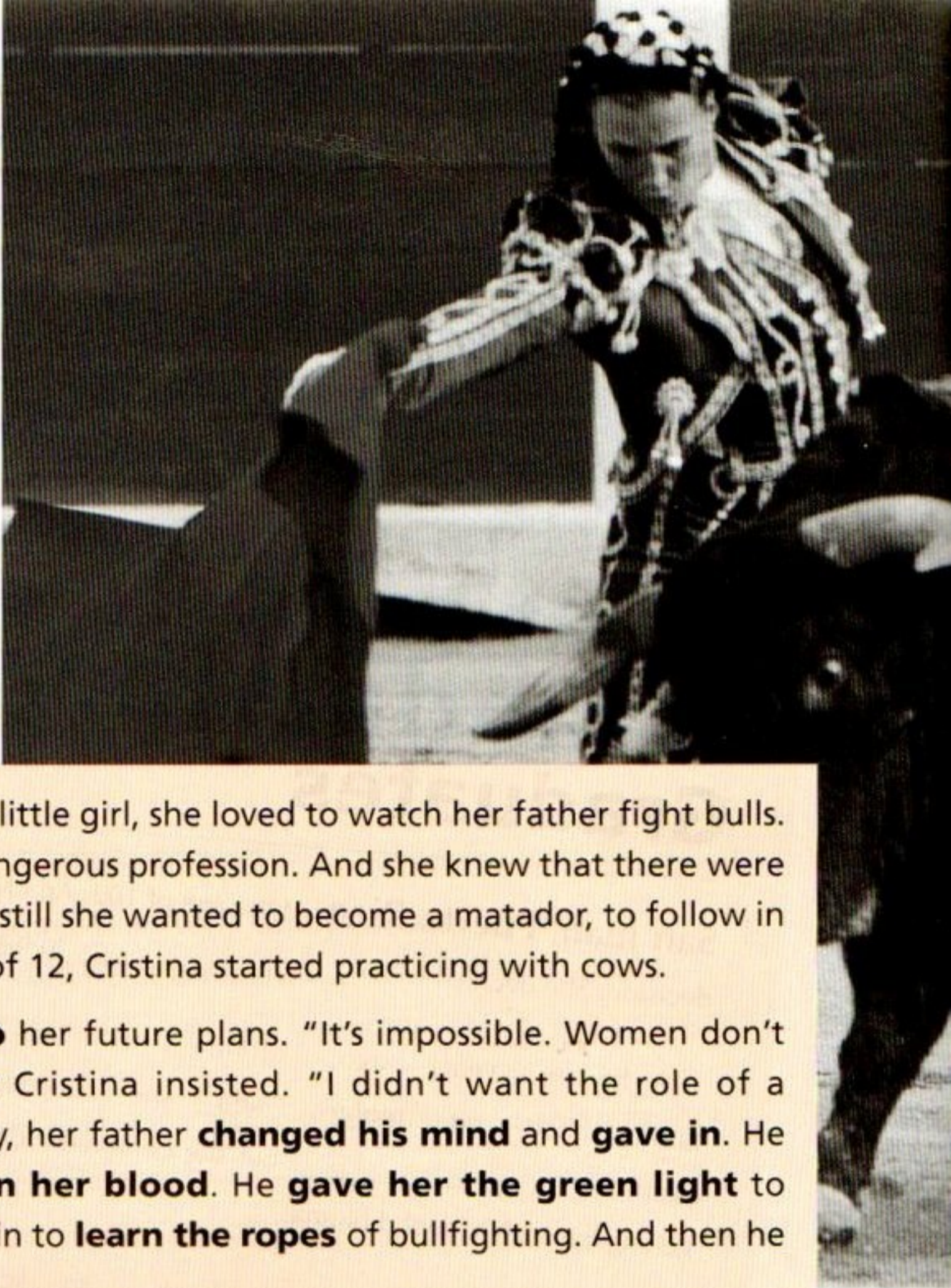


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Bullfighting Is in Her Blood



1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 91.

What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.

SPAIN ¹When Cristina Sanchez was a little girl, she loved to watch her father fight bulls.

²She knew that bullfighting was a dangerous profession. And she knew that there were no women bullfighters in Spain. ³But still she wanted to become a matador, to follow in her father's footsteps. So at the age of 12, Cristina started practicing with cows.

⁴Her father **was** totally **opposed to** her future plans. "It's impossible. Women don't become bullfighters," he said. But Cristina insisted. "I didn't want the role of a traditional woman," she says. ⁵Finally, her father **changed his mind** and **gave in**. He saw that Cristina had bullfighting **in her blood**. He **gave her the green light** to attend the most famous school in Spain to **learn the ropes** of bullfighting. And then he became her trainer.

⁶Now Cristina is a star in her country. As the first female matador, she is always **in the public eye**. ⁷But it hasn't been **smooth sailing** for her. She has been hurt three times by bulls. ⁸Also, many people **are angry about** her participation in the sport. Some male matadors refuse to share the bullring with her, and she often hears insults from the audience. "When I hear insults from the crowd," says Cristina, "it makes me try harder. I want those people to **eat their words**."

New idioms and expressions

in one's blood	.....	in one's personality or character
be opposed to something	.....	disagree strongly with a plan, an idea, etc.
change one's mind	.....	begin to think differently about something
give in*	.....	agree to something you didn't want to agree to before
give someone the green light	.....	give someone permission to do or start something
learn the ropes	.....	learn how to do something
in the public eye	.....	well known; in the news
smooth sailing	.....	easy and without problems
be/get angry about something	.....	feel very upset or unhappy about a situation
eat one's words	.....	admit that what one said is wrong

recycled idiom: follow in someone's footsteps

*phrasal verb (see Lexicon and Appendix D)


 **2. Listen**

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.



3. Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

 **4. Listen and Complete**

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

5. Tell the Story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- a. First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- b. Then tell the story to a partner or small group.

6. Answer the Questions

About the story.....

- a. How did Cristina's father first feel about her plans for the future?
- b. Why did he finally change his mind?
- c. Where did Cristina learn the ropes of bullfighting?
- d. Why hasn't it been smooth sailing for Cristina?
- e. What do you think of the matadors who refuse to share the bullring with Christina?
Do you know men like this?
- f. What do you think of Cristina's career choice? What do you think about the sport of bullfighting?

About you.....

- g. Is your family opposed to any of your ideas or dreams?
- h. Tell about a time when you were opposed to something but then gave in.
- i. From what you see on TV and read in the newspapers, who is in the public eye now?
What do you know about these people?

7. Write about Yourself

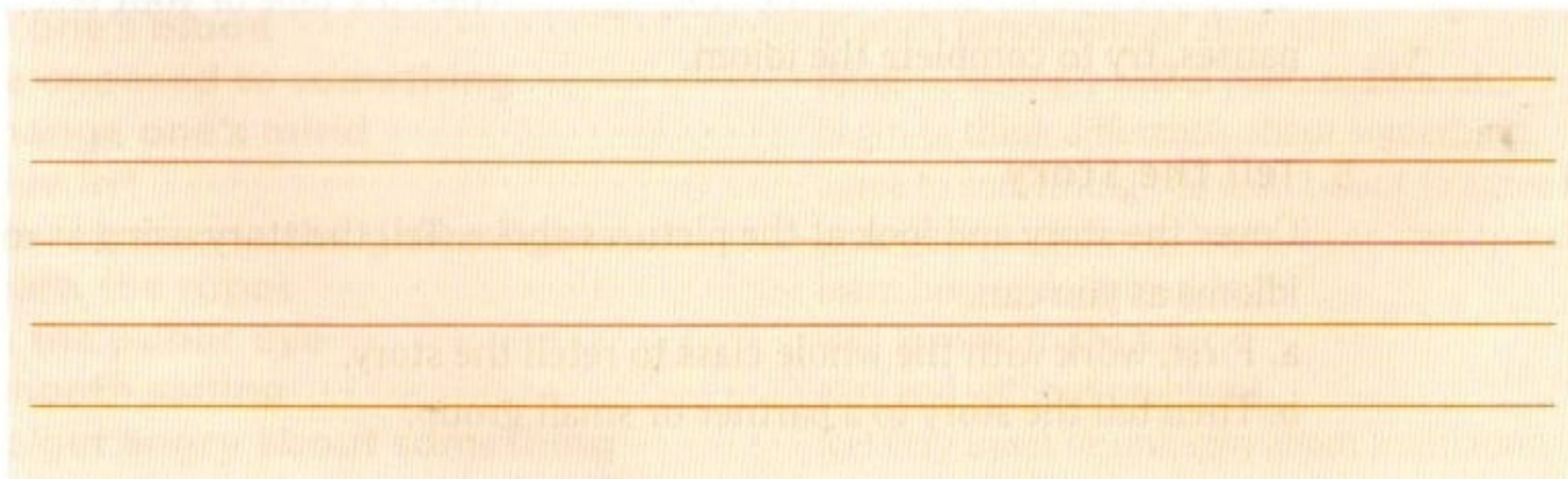
Complete the sentences, writing something true about yourself.

- a. I'm angry about _____.
- b. I'm opposed to _____
because _____.
- c. In my country, _____ is in the public eye because _____.

8. Write a Dialogue

Work with a partner. Write a dialogue using at least three idioms from the unit.
Act it out for a small group or the class.

9. Take a Dictation



10. Complete the Dialogue

a. A mother and her teenage son, Kenny, are talking.

Fill in the blanks with idioms from the box.

- give in
- be angry about
- give me the green light
- learn the ropes
- opposed to
- change my mind



Hi, honey. How was your first day at work?

It wasn't bad. I'm starting to (1) _____.
In a few months, I'll have enough money for a motorcycle.



You know I don't like motorcycles. I'm absolutely (2) _____ the idea.

But Stefano has one. And a lot of other kids do too.



I know, but I think motorcycles are very dangerous.

But, Mom, ...



I'm not going to (3) _____.
You won't make me (4) _____.

Oh, Mom. **Have a heart!*** You have to (5) _____ on this one!



Sorry, Kenny. Please don't (6) _____ this. It's for your own good.

*Have a heart!: Be kind and nice!

b. Work with a partner. Role-play the dialogue together.