



The Last Princess

Marissa Craig

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The first kiss every girl dreams of turns out to be the kiss of death. Twelve year old princess, Setsuna, trains her entire life to be perfect for her foreign fiancé, Kyoya, a twenty year old mysterious prince from the country next door. He kisses her for the world to see and Setsuna becomes the target in a massacre that bloodies her sheltered palace. She deems Kyoya as her only hope not knowing the true intention of his kiss. But he is only interested in the throne and leaves his best friend and military captain, Saki to guard her. There is something familiar about the captain's eyes and something developing that makes Setsuna question who she is allowed to love. The wedding is approaching. Will Setsuna find out the truth before it is too late?

The Last Princess Details

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From Reader Review The Last Princess for online ebook

Amber says

Princess Setsuna and Prince Kyoya has been destined to be wed since their parents arranged it when they were children. Now Setsuna has turned 12 and has met Kyoya face to face for the very first time. Will Kyoya allow the princess to grow up so he can marry her and rule her country or does he have something sinister in mind? Read on and find out for yourself.

This was a pretty good YA fantasy and an emotional roller-coaster ride of a read for me. I enjoyed it. If you like YA fantasies, definitely check it out. I got this for free on Smashwords but you can get it for regular price now there and wherever books are sold.

LunaLibro says

DNF at 7%

I feel really, really disappointed, guilty, and frustrated all at once! The more I kept reading, the more I was absolutely annoyed with the story and it's characters.

Since this is the first time I DNF'd a book so early, I would like to give the book a second chance. I MIGHT return to it at a later time. Who knows.

Final Thoughts As Of This Moment: Read/PASS

Selena says

DNF 205/414

I've decided to take pity on myself and just stop. This has steadily been angering me more and more as the story has gone on. Fearing that this would be like Gantz was for a friend of mine (always hoping it would get better and being angered instead), I skipped a few chapters and scanned the page. Then repeated the process until the end of the book. Soon as it became clear what I was in for, I decided to set it aside permanently. Life's too short and there are too many books out there for me to struggle through something that's become worse than a chore.

So what went wrong?

Well, first of all, I had very different expectations.

The description is somewhat vague on a lot of details. Reading it, I figured that it would be historical fiction taking place in Japan with a semi-legal main character (at least for the time period). What I got was *modern*

day in pseudo-Japan with a twelve-year-old engaged to a twenty-year-old. Needless to say, I got a little creeped out, but went with it for a while.

Then we had twenty-year-old Kyoya (now "pedo-bear," as he should be called) falling in love with twelve-year-old girl (Setsuna), and by "falling in love" I mean making out with her, having someone murder her entire family, making her body guard the guy who murdered her family (and being well aware of it), then taking over her kingdom and not speaking to her for three years. And he justifies much of it with talk like "she's older than her years" (not direct quote, but same sentiment) and that he's giving her freedom. All I can think of is that guy in the news a few years back who got away with statutory rape for similar reasons on steroids.

And that's not even the worst of the rape culture! Kantarou (rapey-mc-rapey-pants) sexually assaults Yumiko early on in the story but "nothing happens" and she's all "I don't want to be a mistress but that's all I'm good for" and Rapey Pants is all "Fix yourself. I got carried away." And she's all "Ok." I'm all:

And when he's engaged to some other chick and wants Yumiko on the side and she puts her foot down and goes "Nope. Can't have both" he takes it as a recommendation to try harder!

What part of @#&%ing no don't these characters understand!?

Oh, and Kira (youngest of the ass hole trio) forces a kiss on Setsuna and is determined to steal her away from pedo-bear with no concern for her feelings.

And I ultimately ended up quitting because 23 year old pedo-bear is contemplating having sex with 16 year old Setsuna, despite the fact she's angry with him for not speaking with her for three years. Despite the fact she's angry with him for having affairs with other women while he's engaged with her. DESPITE THE FACT SHE WAS RECENTLY SEXUALLY ASSAULTED BY THE @#%&ING BODY GUARD HE GAVE HER AND HAD HER THROAT SLIT. Even if he does believe her BS about all her injuries being self-inflicted.

Oh, yeah, her guard Captain Saki doesn't take her saying he's just a friend too well and so pulls out a knife and starts cutting her up while getting off sexually at it. She just stands there and takes it. When he goes for the underwear, she kicks him or something and he slits her throat. When she recovers (because she needs to live to be abused even more, I'm sure) she tells everyone she tried to commit suicide, not that SOMEONE @#%&ing attacked her.

Holy shit, did this book get me cursing at things. This book does so much to perpetuate rape culture that halfway through, I just couldn't think of much in the way of good things about this book. Anything that I might have liked early on just started to get pushed out by more and more eye rolls and cursing as the story went on. I suppose it's good that this was a very easy read stylistically, or else I wouldn't have been able to get this far.

Let's see... what else is worth commenting on... The writing itself was decent enough, if in serious need to a

proofreader. Setsuna could have been a great character if she'd been fleshed out beyond the "good girl, loyal girlfriend/wife" tropes. I think this is supposed to take place in Japan, judging by clothes, names, etc. but there are all sorts of inaccuracies as to Japanese culture (maybe can chalk it up to it being small kingdoms of Han and Morinaga instead of a definite location in Japan?).

Oh, and pedo-bear murders someone for throwing paint on Setsuna. In front of shittons of people.

It pains me to dnf this (I hate not finishing things), and it certainly pains me to give this one star. I had such high hopes for this, but it just ended up pushing all the wrong buttons for me.
