



The Princess Affair

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Rhodes Scholar Kerry Donovan has never had anything handed to her on a silver platter. As she arrives at Oxford to begin her course of study, she is determined to make the most out of this latest opportunity. But when she meets Her Royal Highness Princess Sasha, second in line to the British throne, Kerry's priorities are eclipsed by an attraction neither of them can ignore. "Sassy Sasha" is a tabloid favorite who appears to delight in scandalizing her people, but beneath her vexed public image, Sasha longs to be truly seen.

Will the tenuous connection she forms with Kerry be broken by the weight of the crown? Or will they find true love despite the forces endeavoring to keep them apart?

The Princess Affair Details

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Author : Nell Stark

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From Reader Review The Princess Affair for online ebook

Diane says

Good read! nice rom-com story..likable characters with good storytelling

D. Leigh says

After an intense paranormal series, Nell Stark returns with a sweet journey that is everything you want in a romance -- characters you fall in love with and worry over, and a happy ending. The icing is a wonderful American peek into the U.K.

If you are a sucker for romance -- and I am -- you'll enjoy this tale.

Diane Wallace says

Good read! nice rom com story...likable characters with good storytelling

Luce says

3.5 Stars rounded up to 4 Stars for the Audiobook.

It was slow in the beginning that about 20% into it I stopped listening. I picked it up again and felt I stopped too soon and should have kept going. Or maybe I needed a break because I was bored at the time? Nevertheless, I enjoyed it much more when I started listening again and finished it relatively quickly.

Sasha (The Princess) and second in line for the throne, was a bit exasperating - at times she was strong and stubborn, but most of the time she was weak. But not many could continually stand up to her father, the King who believed her dyslexia could be overcome if she just concentrated and because it was hidden from the public, they thought she was an airhead (which she wasn't) and a player (which she was). So with her low self-esteem she rebelled, acting the spoiled princess - until she meets an American, Kerry - a current Rhodes scholar. There is the romance, angst and a public outing at the worst time for the royal family.

The narrator was just OK. A few times, the audio was uneven - almost like she re-dubbed a line here and there. Not terrible, and not a big deal but I noticed.

Marilyn says

I am not much of a follower of royalty, so I wasn't sure I would like this. However, I enjoyed the locations and the characters were very likable.

Bonnie says

3.5 star rating: it took me a little while to warm to the characters, & I thought the scenarios were just a bit too staged to be believable, but I did end up enjoying this romance.

Agirlcandream says

A modern fairy tale, one I could relate to for a change. Just what I needed to escape the stresses of every day life.

Beautifully written, (yes there are big words, get over yourselves people) and easy to imagine. Great escapist fare.

I read The Princess Affair after reading Nell Stark's The Princess and the Prix, my first read of Stark's work. I needed another fix of compelling story telling.

F. says

A romance involving a fictional British princess of a fictional British royal family but set in actual Britain. I think your enjoyment of this book will depend crucially on lack of knowledge of Britain, British society and the monarchy....

An American working class Rhodes scholar and a dyslexic wild child British Princess fall in lust in a club. From there on in we have a number of set pieces leading to a fairy tale ending.

I found it increasingly impossible to suspend belief in this story. It's a kind of sweet romance. But upper class Brits don't talk or behave this way. Sorry.

Overall, a very well-written, but weak-plotted, romance with not very believable characters. Read if you're not British. Or if you are and willing to turn off the bollocks-alarm... A perfectly relaxing read.

Karen says

This book was a pleasant surprise. Good story line, good chemistry between the MC's and just the right amount of angst. 4.25 stars

Lauren says

Going into this book knowing the premise, I was really just looking for something entertaining and fluffy. But what I found was that it really lacked the refinement it would've needed to carry itself.

I wasn't expecting a life-changing work of literature, but what really disappointed me about the book was the rambling, directionless pace of the plot and the lazy writing that defined the characters. The main characters each feel like a self-insertion of the author with the added ingredients of some stereotypical traits to make them feel different from each other, whereas the secondary/minor characters are so one dimensional they feel straight out of a mid-2000s Disney Channel original movie.

I think this book could have been entertaining, but what it really needed was an overhaul in the editing department. The plot felt like an updated bi-weekly fanfiction where the author has no real plan, and doesn't do any refining after the fact. The characters were, as I said, written like they were blanks being filled in. For a plot as ludicrous as this to work, it would've needed to be carried by its characters. If they had been rendered into interesting people we didn't know at first glance, there would've been more room to grow to like them, and then the otherwise goofy plot line would've been pushed forward by those pivotal romantic scenes: as it was, the characters didn't really stir anything up in me, so I found myself just getting through one scene in order to get to the next and see if it was going to improve.

The narration was wordy in an unnecessary sort of way: the phrases were clunky, as Stark consistently chose the most impressive word for what she meant, instead of the best one for the job. It was distracting, and it felt weirdly pretentious, especially for such a ludicrous romance novel.

The thing I liked about the book was Sasha's main conflict, to do with her dyslexia. But a lot of the pivotal scenes in that plot line were overly formulaic: she's miserable so she's wallowing and watching movies in the dark. It had that distinct sound to it of being rewritten, a new incarnation born from a thousand scenes just like it. A too-literal interpretation of "write what you know." That was maybe what made the plot line so rambling: it was a series of scenes we've seen before in other forms, led by characters we've seen before, connected by meandering segues.

In order for this story to work (and I think it could've) there needs to be a suspension of disbelief: and in order for it to have that, it would need to be driven by expertly crafted characters, the sort we'd care so much about that we'd forgive and be able to enjoy the unbelievable premise. I think it gets close, with Sasha's dyslexia and anxiety pitted against her natural talent for public relations. That was an interesting facet to her character. Unfortunately, it was the only unpredictable thing in the entire book. Sasha's best friend is every character Ashley Tisdale played in the mid-2000s, and her bodyguard is a gay version of Joe from the *Princess Diaries*. Kerry's traditional-conservative-family background is a conflict we've seen too many times in lesbian characters to be very interested in without a twist, and she doesn't seem to have a lot of personality outside her feelings for Sasha and her love for running. She has the stereotypical gay-best-friend who says "oh my god, tell me everything!!" at least five times in the book. Sasha's dad is a typical looming patriarch filled with disdain for his daughter for being different. His character works pretty well, but after so many predictable ones you start feeling starved for something out of the ordinary to spice things up.

This book feels like a rough draft. There are scenes, dialogues, and entire characters that feel like they're just filling in the blanks with the first, most obvious solution that came to mind. I wasn't able to get past that to enjoy the fluffiness of it, because it just didn't get me to the point where I achieved that suspense of disbelief that it needed, and it didn't keep me interested.

To return to my mid-2000s Disney Channel Original Movie point, one thought that came to mind as I was reading this is that it's like the novel version of that song the hologram wrote in *Pixel Perfect*: for those that haven't seen it (everyone outside the ages of 20-25) the hologram is this computer program girl who is semi-sentient, and she wrote a song that is just made up of lines from other songs, rearranged into an order that sort of makes sense; she herself is the same thing, this composite of attractive features of other girls, all put

together into something that seems pleasing but lacks originality or authenticity, and it can't really stand up to scrutiny. That is what this book is like.

Ty says

Well this was kind of delightful. The characters were sweet and interesting and likable. The plot moved well, and the hurdles they faced felt natural to the progression of the story. This was a nice fairytale romance.

Amanda says

Picked this book up as a BSB daily bargain. I typically enjoy Starks's books but this wasn't a favorite. It started out slow, and by the end I was more into the story but not crazy excited to run out and purchase book 2. I will finish the series at some point but I am in no rush. The characters were okay, but nothing spectacular. Several times I would have given up on Sasha, princess royal or not. I didn't rush through the book, and actually started another while still reading this one. For me that is never a great sign. If you are a fan of Stark or royal romances you should pick it up, you may enjoy it more than I did. It wasn't bad, but perhaps I expected too much based on how much I enjoyed the author's previous works. Fingers crossed I enjoy book 2 more.

Linda J says

An entertaining read. Love story with MCs coming from 2 very different world - Sasha a dyslexic princess who is always in the news for her wild partying and Kerry a commoner who also happened to be a Rhodes Scholar. They met in a club, were very much attracted with each other and romance eventually blossomed between the 2. The story then take off from there on how Sasha and Kerry tried to continue their romance under the scrutiny of the media and pressure of monarchy.

Ratings - 4.25 ??

C. Mack says

I half read and half listened to this novel. Overall I enjoyed the story but I may have liked it better if I read it all first. Being British I found the narration stereotypical, irritating and off putting and it shaped how I viewed the characters despite my attempts to avoid it. Overall a fair read but I won't be re-reading, I found it to be a little shallow, quite easy to predict and lacking a bit of 'umph' as we like to say here in Yorkshire!

Tara says

Slow beginning that I mainly skimmed, but I really enjoyed it once Kerry and Sasha finally met and couldn't put it down after that.

2016 reread: I loved it even more than the last time and bumped it up a star.

Review here: <http://www.thelesbianreview.com/princ...>
