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Double Cross Details

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Author : Stuart Gibbs

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From Reader Review Double Cross for online ebook

Jbocks40 says

The book was very much like the other ones in this series, which was very good. This book brought all of the conflicts in the previous books into one fight. In the book, Greg Rich, who had accidentally traveled back in time. He is trying to get the Devil's Stone to go back to his time, but he faces many obstacles. This book was very good at changing plot to keep the reader engaged. Anybody who likes adventure stories and action will enjoy this book a lot.

April says

Greg and the Musketeers battle to save the day, Paris and the king. They find the devil's stone. The bad guys are their own worst enemies. Greg and his parents are able to return home.

Mark Baker says

This Middle Grade trilogy comes to an end as modern day teen Greg Rich must figure out a way to save seventeenth century France and find the stone that will take his family home. Fast paced action made it hard to put down, and I loved every second of the race to the end.

My full review at Carstairs Considers.

Heather says

I wish this was not the last book in the series :(.

Kevin Martin says

Amazing!

Austin Phadounsyavong says

I like this book and in past history but he travel to land and became musketeer but meet spinach army and get person bring to castle then throw in prison make me hurt feeling but he want became musketeer.

moonyangelica says

Awesome book

I think we have to the one in our bathroom in and out the door for the night to get

Yapha says

This book picks up where the second one left off. Greg (who has traveled back in time) and the three musketeers are about to be hanged for treason. Milady is off with Greg's phone, his only like to his life in the current time. Can they get out of this situation, and make it back to Paris in time to save the city from falling, and France from being overthrown? Can they find both halves of the Devil Stone so Greg and his parents can return to the current time? An exciting adventure for fans of the first two books. It does not stand alone. For grades 4-7.

Karen says

This story provides the ending to the Last Musketeer trilogy. Taken as a whole, the series is quite good, but this book, which should have been the strongest, turned out to be the weakest. It was just a little too pat to truly be exciting. And the ending was meh.

Kat Heckenbach says

This was a good ending to a good series. I can't quite put my finger on why, but this one was a smidge not as good as the other two for me, though. It may have been that by the third book, I was tiring of the sword fights and narrow escapes. Although, the young boys at which this story is aimed would probably find those a positive rather than a negative :).

A good ending to a fun series. Even though I give this book three stars, I recommend the series as a whole!

Dylan.L says

This mystery book was suspenseful. My favorite part was when Greg, Aramis, and Greg's parents were stuck in the underground room.

Sheryl says

Fun continuation of the series. Perfect for 5th grade and up.

Angie says

This made more sense when I realized I'd missed book two in the middle ... and went back to finish it first.

Pros

Loads of sword fights! Who doesn't love a great sword fight? And scenes (this isn't giving too much away ... you don't know when or why) in underground Paris! I have always had a sort of fascination with exploring old underground tunnels. I don't want to do it but I like reading or watching when other people do!

Cons

This is not *The Three Musketeers* by a long shot. The pacing ... all this build up and then whoosh! It's over. Do kids have the patience to deal with all of the French words? They haven't grabbed up book one at school! We'll see if they "find" it better next year when we've genrified.

Cecilia Rodriguez says

Set in 1615 Paris.

Michel Dinicoeur and Dominic Richelieu are set on revenge after suffering defeat in Madrid.

It's up to Greg and the three musketeers to stop the two from over throwing King Louis and destroying Paris.

Anne Beardsley says

I enjoyed it. I did. It was fun, and adventurous, and a nice read.

I did miss the personalities of the other musketeers a bit, as the limelight focused almost exclusively on Greg in this last book with just a bit of Aramis (always the author's favorite). I like Aramis, too...but I miss the four of them as a cohesive, wisecracking, swashbuckling team.

It ended reasonably well. Reading it was sufficiently satisfying... even if there was a glaring example of the "power too great for man to handle because it corrupts all it touches. But we'll give it to **you**, because you are not a terrible guy, so we're pretty sure it will all be okay". Oh, well. I still was happy.

May I rant about population issues, now?

Double Cross is the fascinating story of a boy sent back to a 1615 France....that is apparently post-apocalyptic, since 98% of the population has mysteriously disappeared, leaving the area largely depopulated, forests growing over the once endless farmland. (You remember how Europeans spent that century migrating to America because it had vast tracts of arable land free to whoever could clear and farm it? Well, in this strange, empty Europe, nobody would ever have left for the New World. The Apaches might have immigrated to Europe to claim some of those thousands of square miles of uninhabited primeval forest that the characters keep traveling through.)

This wouldn't be a problem in and of itself. The thing is, the author thinks he's writing historical fiction, not

science fiction. He really thinks that in 1615 the world contained so few people that 2,000 was an overwhelming invasion force, and the king of France can barely raise less than 1,000 men himself.

Let's look at history, 200 years earlier...and with a less united France...French kings regularly threw together armies that were 3000 +. At Agincourt alone France fielded over 10,000 mounted knights ...and a truly dizzying array tens of thousands of footsoldiers. And when the entire army was mostly annihilated – well, it was bad, but France didn't stop fighting. They just raised more armies.

This is 1615. Within 30 years, France would regularly be fielding armies of more than 120,000. Multiple armies. To multiple places.

So please quit telling me that 2,000 is an overwhelming force, that King Louis would be lucky to raise half that, and that less than 2,000 can successfully lay siege to Paris.

In 1637 The population of Paris was 415,000. Let's assume, 20 years earlier, that it was, oh...400,000, give or take. That's 200,000 males. Now, while life expectancy was 35 years, that number came from high infant mortality rates; if you survived the first 5 years you would live an average of 60 years. At least a third of the people of Paris are under 20 (and although many teenagers could and did fight, let's ignore them). Probably 33,000 more are too old or infirm to fight. Others might be crippled or feeble-minded or monks. Leaving, as I see it, about 150,000 men of the right age to defend their city. Oh, right; the king sent out a little less than 1,000...149,000 men in their prime. Who will not want their city overrun and their houses looted.

Against a *horrible massive overwhelming force* of less than 2,000. Please explain to me how less than 2,000 men can even lay siege successfully to a city that is 5 square miles large, contains multiple fortresses and impressive walls and a major river? How could they even hope to hold in the massive teeming population? They are outnumbered 200 to 1! Even if Paris was mostly empty the invaders couldn't possibly guard all the exits sufficiently! 2,000 is enough to besiege a medieval walled township. Not a city, even a small one, let alone a massive fortress city astride a river!

See, this is where my post-apocalyptic theory comes in. 98% of the population of the world has mysteriously disappeared, leaving only 8,000 people in Paris. Suddenly it makes sense that the King could only send out 1,000 men from the city and environs! And only 3,000 men (wait, plus farmers from nearby areas, the book said that...) okay, 5,000 men are left in Paris. About 2,000 of which are of an age and fitness to fight. IT WORKS! Suddenly the siege might almost work out!

Except that to make a siege successful it was generally considered that you needed at least 50% more men than the defenders. Hmmm. I guess we'll have to make it that 98.8 % of the population has been beamed up by aliens.

No wonder these people are so backward. They've been through a lot.
