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When Desi Bascomb gets discovered by the elite Facade Agency—royalty surrogates extraordinaire—her life goes from glamour-starved to spectacular in a blink. As her new agent, Meredith, explains, Desi has a rare magical ability: when she applies the ancient Egyptian formula “Royal Rouge,” she can transform temporarily into the exact lookalike of any princess who needs her subbing services. Dream come true, right? Well, Desi soon discovers that subbing involves a lot more than wearing a tiara and waving at cameras. Like, what do you do when a bullying older sister puts you on a heinous crash diet? Or when the tribal villagers gather to watch you perform a ceremonial dance you don’t know? Or when a princess’s conflicted sweetheart shows up to break things off—and you know she would want you to change his mind? In this hilarious series debut, one girl’s dream of glamour transforms into something bigger: the desire to make a positive impact. And an impact Desi makes, one royal fiasco at a time.

Princess for Hire Details

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Author : Lindsey Leavitt

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From Reader Review Princess for Hire for online ebook

Hannah Belyea says

Desi is beyond shocked when she is hired by the Façade Agency to stand in for vacationing princesses, all because she has magical potential - a power and job no one can ever know she has. Trouble is, balancing her duties and desire to help the girls she substitutes for could have dire consequences for her chances of ever getting a paycheck! Leavitt gives readers a delightful and heartwarming tale that is sure to please fans of urban fantasy. Slipping in and out of appearances is going to be tougher to get used to than Desi ever dreamed!

Shanyn (Chick Loves Lit) says

This book was a quick read, and basically a Disney movie in written form (notice the publisher includes Disney on the spine). It was a good book to read in between other books for sure.

The main character is hired to fill in for royalty, so we find her in many odd situations. The best part about this job to me was how the author described the bubble she traveled in (I'd like to try that once).

The plot never got too thick - the character didn't have to deal with any deep problems or anything like that - though, like I said, very Disney all around.

I'm actually pretty interested to read the next book in the series, because many of the characters had personality traits that could be built on. Great book if you enjoy princess or fantasy themes.

Caroline Bennett says

I was looking for something brainless and this did the trick while I was driving to family hospital appointments. Fluff but still enjoyable.

Sophie Riggsby / allthingsequilateral says

Sometimes when you read a book, you feel like you're watching every scene as it unfolds. You know the feeling when details jump out at you and you can see and hear the characters so very clearly? Well, I certainly experienced just that when I read *Princess for Hire*.

I was so moved by Desi, a girl who wants to be accepted as her tee-shirt-creating, classic-movie-watching self but is relegated to working an after school job dressed up as a groundhog for a local mall's pet shop. It's the kind of job where you're bound to stumble into your crush and his girlfriend who just happens to be your former best friend. But it's this very job at Pets Charming that leads to a change in Desi's life. Sometimes when you make a wish on some very special fish, well, it can lead to an entirely different life. Can't it?

In this case, it does. Desi is transported out of her everyday, humdrum life and through the help of Meredith Pouffinski, Princess Agent Extraordinaire, Desi becomes a Princess Sub. You see princesses live exciting lives but sometimes they need a break. So who can step in for them? Why a Sub, of course.

You can imagine that this leads to some very funny and unexpected situations. I loved every one of them. I also loved the idea that princesses needed a break. It reminded me of one of my favorite movies, "Roman Holiday". You know the one where Audrey Hepburn plays a princess who needs a holiday? Well, it'll come as no surprise that it's one of Desi's favorite movies, too.

Lindsey has a delightful way of presenting the whimsical magic system, a plot line that pulls you in and a completely relatable main character. So if you feel like you always wanted to try your hand at being a princess, be sure to read *Princess for Hire*, it'll open up that What If moment for you. I know it did just that for me. And much to my relief there is a sequel in the works which will be released in May 2011. I need to know what happens between Desi and a certain boy.

I also want to mention that this is a perfect book for a mom and a tween daughter to share. My 7.5 year old has been glancing at the cover and it's just the kind of book that we would read outloud together.

Michelle Stimpson says

Desi wishes for a better job and *poof* becomes a Princess for Hire. This book is hilarious and fun and has bubble bath tubs full of heart. I absolutely love Desi and look forward to reading more of her adventures . . .

Amy Plum says

I won a signed copy of this book in the Help Write Now auction, and absolutely ate it up. Love Desi. Love Meredith. Love the whole idea of choosing to "impact" instead of being blinded by tiaras. I can't wait until my daughter is old enough to read this. Especially since it was dedicated, "Princess Lucia...Impact!" I am certain it's going to be a favorite!

Lindsey Leavitt says

Hey! I'm not trying to be biased. Let's just say writing this book was a 5 star experience for me and I hope you get some enjoyment out of it as well.

emily says

Honestly, I wouldn't have picked up this book were it not for the author. I knew Leavitt's writing style would be authentic and entertaining at the least, soulful and original at its best. While *Princess for Hire* may not really be a "soulful" kind of story, it sure captured everything else on the spectrum!

I wasn't sure how I felt about Desi at first--which is pretty true-to-life. What 15-year-old *are* you sure about

at first? They're not even sure about themselves! But she quickly drew me in and I found myself staying up late, devouring the book to see how all her adventures play out.

If the rest of the trilogy is as engaging, witty, clever and plain ol' FUN as this book, princesses (and their subs) have just found a new fan.

Here's a summary from Amazon: *Fifteen-year-old Desi feels she is wasting her life in Idaho, between her job at the pet store, where she has to wear a groundhog costume, and her bitter ex-friend Celeste, whose father was sent to jail by Desi's attorney dad. So when Desi is offered an enchanted position as a "sub" for real princesses, why would she say no? With a desire to help these girls—whether it's an older sister's crash diet or a rite-of-passage ceremony—Desi gets in some hot water and in the process discovers some important truths about her own life. With creativity and a sense of humor, this first novel is a delightful romp. The provision of magic makes all things possible, and the sense of place is vividly realized. Fans of The Princess Diaries (2000) and Ella Enchanted (1997) will be pulled in by Desi and her refusal to accept the status quo. Fortunately for them, Leavitt's first novel is not her last—she is working on a sequel. Grades 5-8. --Melissa Moore*

Don says

My sister left this book downstairs. I made fun of her because it's so PINK. She got ticked and bet me that if I read the book, I'd like it. I took her up on it. I lost the bet. This book was intelligent (yes, I know it's a tween book, but there it is) and laugh out loud funny, especially the Las Vegas scene. So I admit it. I'm a guy and I liked a pink book. So sue me. Just let me read the sequel when it comes out.

Brooke ♥booklife4life♥ says

Basic Info

Format: Hardback

Pages/Length: 240pgs

Genre: Young Adult

At A Glance

Love Triangle/Insta Love/Obsession?: Slight obsession.

Cliff Hanger: Eh.

Triggers: n/a

Rating: 3.5 Stars

Score Sheet

All out of ten

Cover: 8

Plot: 8

Characters: 8

World Building: 7

Flow: 8

Series Congruity: n/a

Writing: 7

Ending: 7

Total: 7

In Dept

Best Part: Good plot!

Worst Part: Too rushed.

Thoughts Had: oh snap!; What a b.; Go you!!

Conclusion

Continuing the Series: yah

Recommending: yah

Short Review: This was a cute, quick read. I was confused on the last princess thou, we received "bios" on the first two princesses she subs for but not the third, which confused me because she was living poorly but hung out with a Prince and was considered a princess. The trial at the end was too rushed for me. The MC was a bit too bossy for my liking and too "eager" to help. I am eager to see which princesses she gets next!

Misc.

Book Boyfriend: None.

Best Friend Material: Shimmy!

Review in GIF Form:

Jessica says

This book was quite simply "adorbs." I loved Desi and her ironic t-shirts, I loved the princesses that she was subbing for. Such a clever and fun idea!

Jada says

Princess for Hire is a fun, whimsical read that many will find Irresistible. I loved Desi she was relatable, funny and, easy to like. during this whole book I never felt like I wanted to stop reading because it was too boring or dull it always kept me entertained which is very rare. In this book Desi takes the place/substitute for

princesses who want to take a break and get away. Desi finds herself in some weird situations but somehow ends up making things better because she does what she believes is right. The plot moved quickly in this book which was really good because I hate (dislike) books that have plots that seem to drag on forever. The end of this book made me so happy but yet so sad at the same time because Desi finally realizes who is the right guy for her but it might be near impossible for them to be together.

Overall: Princess for Hire is a magical book by debut author Lindsey Levitt That brings out your inner princess.

Alex says

At First Sight: Desi is 14 and stuck having the worst job ever - working for Pets Charming is a never ending string of undignified tasks such as being Gladys the Groundhog, scooping manure at a parade or taking a turn sitting on a dunk tank - and the rest of her life is not much better. Her Dad is all about 'work ethic' and won't let her quit her job, her Mom is a former beauty queen who now runs a Charm School - which Desi flunked - and dotes on Desi's baby sister.

So, when after a particularly bad day, Desi is reading the wanted adds on the paper, hopeful to find a new job, she sees a strange add urging her to call for Meredith if she thinks she has what it takes to be a Princess For Hire.

Figuring it's worth a shot, Desi calls for Meredith and gets sucked into the world of substitute princesses. See, for centuries and centuries, Meredith's agency has devoted itself to use magic to 'substitute' royalty while the real royals run about and have their little escapades. And Desi is their newest talent.

Standing in for a royal sounds glamorous, right? but Desi is about to find out that nothing is ever what it seems.

Second Glance: I got Princess for Hire close to a year ago - I won it from Free Book Friday Teens!, first time EVER that I had won anything - but my cousin sort of had it in her possession for a long time so I only got to read it now.

I quite adored this book, it was cute and sweet and full of magic. I really liked Desi and her struggles both as a sub and in life in general - her crush is dating her nemesis and she feels invisible more often than not - and how she goes about coping with what life throws at her. There is a core to her feelings that I found quite real, and I actually liked a lot of the characters in the book - specially two of the princesses Desi subs for.

I had some problems with Meredith in the beginning, but Smalls@Small Review told me to stick to her and I have to admit that, in the end, Meredith did come through, and I hope they explore more of her story in the next books.

Now, much as I liked this book -and I did like it from the start - it took me about two weeks to finish it, not because there was anything wrong with it but because at the beginning it was very easy to put down. I enjoyed it a lot while I was reading but it was very episodic and easy to put down once each adventure ended, but once I sat down to finish it, I read about two thirds of the novel in just two hours.

Bottom Line: I do love Desi and her world, I loved Princess for Hire and I can't wait to read the next book The Royal Treatment (which comes out on May 3rd). This book very much reads like a sweet, Disney movie and it's a nice, sweet treat.

Favorite Quote: "Exhausted, I found some pajamas and crawled into bed, thinking about how in every fairy tale, the heroine's problems melt away when she becomes a princess - everyone sees how special she is and loves her. None of the stories was about a chubby, lonely princess who played the French horn into a tape recorder in her duck-filled bedroom. Or about the chubby princess's substitute, for that matter.

Maybe that's what made them fairy tales.
Real life is never how you dreamed it."

Suzanne Young says

Just finished Princess for Hire, and I have to say, it was HILARIOUS. Younger than most of the books I read, it completely engaged me and kept me turning the pages. The author's humor is pure gold.

And honestly, when I got to the last chapter, I was SO disappointed it was over. It's going to be an amazing series!!!!

Amelia says

2.5 stars

I had higher hopes for this and I guess that's why I'm so disappointed.
It wasn't terrible, I think it's mostly because she's 12 and I can't relate to tween feelings.. Also I expected more adventure and they were boring and were over as soon as they started. Then she went to court and that was short and pants.. I won't be reading more.. :/
