



Private Air

Billie Bates

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When Sienna Harris joined the Australian Air Force as a flight attendant for the Prime Minister, she thought she'd hit the glam-job jackpot. But three years of weapons training, outback destinations, and a cheating fighter pilot fiancé, and she's realized it's not so fabulous after all. Time to embark on a new adventure, this time to the prestigious world of international VIP aviation.

Sienna and her best friend leave behind their small-town lives for a glitzy career flight attending on a Saudi prince's private jet. Money, parties, designer clothes, and exotic locations fill the job description, while the sexy pilot, Ted, makes it hard for Sienna to obey the "no fraternizing" rule.

But even the most opulent of journeys can hit turbulence. Sienna's boss, the appearance-obsessed chief stewardess, issues diuretics and Botox with the uniforms and catering orders, and the prince is a man who's never told no. Underneath its lush appearance, could this desert oasis be more of a muddy puddle?

The Devil Wears Prada meets Pan Am in this fun frolic to the glamorous side of air travel, inspired by the author's own experience as a VIP flight attendant in Saudi Arabia and Europe.

Private Air Details

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From Reader Review Private Air for online ebook

Celia Kennedy says

The books overview ends with, "The Devil Wears Prada meets Pan Am in this fun frolic to the glamorous side of air travel, inspired by the author's own experience as a VIP flight attendant in Saudi Arabia and Europe."

The Devil Wears Prada is an incredibly well crafted book, so I would hesitate to compare most books to it. But that is the sentence that convinced me to read this book. This is not a comparable book.

As another reviewer points out, the two Australian military air flight attendants, Sienna and Kendi, are trained in combat and weaponry. Much of the book they spend their time intimidated, easily persuaded, panicked, and plain old fashioned overwhelmed. I think the idea for the book is original and would have loved to seen the two women use the RAAF acquired skills to solve a mystery/crime, even if it were in a light and comedic fashion. There is a crime, but it is all neatly explained away and used as blackmail.

The book concludes with the two women high tailing it back to Australia just after spending a few nights in jail. This part of the book feels very much like Bridget Jones, The Edge of Reason; except Mark Darcy isn't there to bail them out and there isn't the awkward but touching Happily Ever After. Sienna's ex, Ted, (and pilot to the Saudi prince) does help bail them out of trouble. Since his character has been all over the map, this reads flat.

Sienna's absent mother floats in and out of the book. I don't know why. I was expecting her to become a major player in the tale, but nope! The mother needs to be rewritten.

At the end of the book, with their lives going down different paths, Sienna and Kendi receive a call from a contact and she wants to know if they are interested in being Flight Attendants for the Russians. If I were Saudi or Russian, I think I would be offended.

Nikki Barrett says

Private Air is a fun, light read to pass the day. I curled up on my swing and prepared for some laughs, which I got. Sienna is an interesting character that had a lot going on. She definitely does have some growth in this book. The writer's style is breezy and enjoyable, making me fly through the pages. I do wish the characters were developed a bit more, and sometimes things went on and on, but overall, Private Air is a story I enjoyed! I'm interested in what else the author has written.

Paige says

Actual Rating: 4.5 of 5 Stars

I wasn't quite sure what to expect of Private Air by Billie Bates. The lifestyle certainly has it's appeal, but I've never really entertained any dreams of jetting around the world. However, I was more than happy to put myself in Sierra's shoes and immensely enjoyed this book!

Sierra didn't really have a lot to lose, she's been estranged from her mother since she was a child, living with her aunt and uncle (whom she's still on good terms with) and joining the Australian Air Force. When her time is up with the Air Force she reluctantly agrees to stay grounded after some convincing from her fiance. That is, until she finds him in the middle of a very compromising situation with a stripper named Arizona.

Like I said, not a lot to lose. So, when her best friend lets her know about a dream job opening making a whole lot more money working for a Saudi Prince she jumps at the chance. Along the way though, she finds that the glam life may not be so wonderful.

I absolutely loved this book! Although a lot of the actions the main character takes weren't ones I would make myself in that situation, the book was just so well written that she became very relatable. This book read almost like your favorite guilty pleasure and I read it all in one day. There wasn't a single character without their quirks, and that's what makes this book so, well, perfect! I rarely finish a book and look back and think that every single character in it was memorable, but this one is one of the exceptions. Upon finishing this book I found out that there is going to be a sequel, which I am seriously excited about because there is just so much more to this story that needs to be told. I highly recommend for any and all fans of chick-lit or just a good book that doesn't completely focus on the romance!

I received this book for review as part of this blog tour. This, however, in no way affected my opinion or review

Patsy Fox says

I thought this was the cutest book. I didn't want to put it down. Kendi and Sienna were the best character's. I hope there will be more about them in future books. I highly recommend this book. Good read...

Kathleen says

In Private Air, author Billie Bates utilizes her previous experience as a VIP flight attendant to weave an entertaining tale that is full of humor and adventure.

Sienna Harris and best friend Kendi Watson are VIP flight attendants with the Royal Australian Air Force. When their military service contract expires, they pursue their dream job in the glamorous jet-set lifestyle of the rich and famous as private VIP flight attendants for a Saudi Arabian Prince. Told in the first person narrative, Sienna takes the reader along for the ride as her new career is filled with glitz and glamour, luxurious perks, exotic locales, and a bit of mischievous misadventures added into the mix!

Be careful what you wish for, because living the jet-setting high life may not be what they thought it would be!

Private Air was a really fun book to read. The author easily draws the reader into Sienna and Kendi's new career as they lived the high life traveling between Europe and the Middle East with the jet-setting rich and famous. The author provides the reader with a fascinating behind the scenes look into the career of international private VIP flight attendants, you can't help but escape into Sienna and Kendi's world as their adventures will give them the experience of their young lives.

I enjoyed the author's style of writing, it was lighthearted and humorous, and kept me thoroughly entertained. The characters were realistic and sassy young women whose witty banter kept me laughing as their adventures took them into a lifestyle that not many of us will never experience. What I liked most of all was the author's rich descriptions of the exotic locales, I felt like I was transported around the world. From private jets, to designer labels, to ritzy hotel suites, and the various customs and traditions of Europe and the Middle East, Private Air is a book that will provide the reader with a great escape from their daily lives!

Disclaimer: I received a copy of the book from the author in exchange for my honest review and participation in a virtual book tour event hosted by Chick Lit Plus Blog Tours.

<http://jerseygirlbookreviews.blogspot...>

Janet says

If you read this for exactly what it is, pure entertainment, you will be a happy reader. There's no great message, no day of redemption, just a funny sexy book. The characters are not as fully formed as I would like, they seem a bit two dimensional, which is why I had a hard time connecting early on. As I got used to the author's writing style and humor, I began to like the characters more, and I really enjoyed the witty banter and dialogue between the two 'best friends.' The settings were beautifully detailed and exotic which was entertaining and added to the lightness of the book.

*I received my copy from NetGalley.com in exchange for an honest review.

~Kate~ says

When I came across this book on netgalley I thought it sounded like a quick and fun read but for me that just wasn't the case.

I like this cover as it feels like summer colours which always look stunning. I love that it is an illustrated cover as it they was able to keep it so it looked like it came straight from inside the pages.

As soon as I started this book I just knew I was going to have trouble with it and I wasn't wrong. It was so slow and uninteresting that I really wanted to stop reading it and the only reason why I continued was because I am doing a birthstone challenge and I don't have many colours for this month so I knew I had to finish it so I could complete this months challenge. I was expecting to be laughing out loud with this one but that wasn't the case, there was times that I thought was a little funny but not enough to laugh out loud. I did like one of the issues raised in this book as it was the only thing that seemed believable in today's society. Don't even get me started on the romance side of the story as it wasn't believable and I couldn't believe that she went with him even after what happened to her. What really saved the book was towards the end when some really interesting things that happened which I really wanted to find out what was going to happen next. I felt the ending went back to not being interesting and it didn't have any real closure which I found really annoying.

I couldn't warm to any of the characters apart from one secondary character (can't remember his name I think

it might be Luke) whom I really wanted in the book more than a couple of moments. Sienna was an annoying character that didn't seem to care about anybody but herself. I thought she was going to be a strong character but in the end I found her to be a hypocrite and someone that gives in to peer pressure very easily.

Sweets Books says

It was good but I found myself taking frequent breaks cause it dragged in some places! It held my interest enough though to finish it. I loved Sienna and Kendi, they were just great friends for each other and stuck up for each other! Some of the situations they found themselves in was just beyond words! But overall its a good read! I loved all the characters, well except Paula! But who would? ;-)

Till next time ~ Sweets Books

Simona says

Book provided by publisher on NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

Reading about flight attendants and this whole thing combined into a chick-lit novel attracted my interest immediately.

Sienna and also Kendi however seemed to be difficult characters for me to relate to. I found myself questioning their behaviour several times.

Reading about glamorous jobs and places is always exciting and special. Everything about their job was just over the top for me and I made some bad experiences with Arabs, so I was a little caught back.

That changed soon though, mostly because of the sexy lead male character Ted. He is the pilot and the way Sienna and Ted met was just so funny and entertaining. Their scenes were my favourites in the book, with lots of love, emotions and passion.

The writing was really refreshing and vivid, the perfect chick-lit and summer book on a relaxing sunny day.

Some things happening in the book came a bit abrupt and there was a time when too much was happening for my taste.

I was a little surprised about the ending, in fact it wasn't a real ending for me. I wanted to story to go on and I hope we'll hear more about Sienna and especially Ted.

All in all, an average book with funny scenes and moments.

Maryline M's Bookshelf says

I found Sienna a difficult character to relate to. Nothing about her decisions - or her personality for that matter - read "military trained" to me, which made that part of her character was very confusing (and the first part of the book as well).

The book however has all the main ingredients for a funny, relaxing chick-lit read: it has the MC in uncomfortable situations, funny one liners from "the best friend" and funny (silent) monologues from the MC, exotic locations and a dream-world-scenario.

When Sienna and her best friend get a bit too close for comfort, things get a bit more exciting. How far are they willing to go to be a part of this world? Will they stay true to who they are?

I was very surprised reading the ending [no spoilers]. I did not see that coming at all and I'm not sure I support their decision. Fingers crossed they won't lose themselves in the glitter and glamour of VIP flying! Check out M's Bookshelf for more: <http://mssbookshelf.blogspot.be>

Audrey says

A nice easy read just before vacation! Travel, fashion, a little heartbreak and a best girlfriend along for the adventure. Looks like their my be a sequel out there... (Free kindle download from Amazon.com)

Christy says

5 Sizzling Mile High Club Flights

Sienna is ready for something fun in her life. She is leaving behind her job with the Australian Military to per-sue a once in a lifetime job being a stewardess for the Saudi Prime Minister. With this job comes many expectations and restrictions. Almost like Eve with the Apple in the Forbidden Garden. She never thought that she would find someone totally hot and sexy and of all people, he would be the gardener for the Prime Minister.

Sienna is living in laps of luxury with her best friend and all she has to do is keep her nose out of trouble and turn her head to things that are not supposed to be there. Sienna never thought in a million years she would be surrounded by such ignorance for the human race. Her once in a lifetime, dream job, quickly turns into a nightmare for her and her best friend and she doesn't know who to trust.

This book was a quick, fast paced fun, yet mysterious read that kept me on the edge of my seat the whole time. There were parts of the book that I was yelling at Sienna to stop being so darn nosy! She just could not help herself, and it ultimately got her in trouble and fleeing from the compound she has learned to call home!

Mary says

To say I like it would be a gross overstatement. Indeed I hated it. But once again any book that compels me to feel so strongly must have some merit. The writing was okay, the story line interesting enough, but down right horrifying. Like the stuff of nightmares and after reading the author bio, I suspect mirrors many real life incidents she actually experienced. Crazy land!

Katarina says

This book is fun to read and well written. Much better written than some other books I've read about air hostesses or cruise ship workers.

it's a dishy book, but also shows that reality can be very different from what we imagine.

Debbie says

One word to sum up this read would be entertaining. A light and fun read that is completely hilarious and written well.

Sienna is the lead character in this story. She is portrayed as self-conscious and in my opinion a bit ditsy as well. The decisions she makes are not always good ones, but this is what attracted me to her character. Often times we beat up on books about the main character being flawed. We feel the book could have been written better if the female would have been more likable. What we seem to forget is that in real life, we are all flawed. I for one like it when the characters in women's fiction are given a voice even if they aren't perfect. Life isn't perfect, why should all novels play pretend?

The places that Sienna and her best friend Kendi got to travel to in this book were so beautifully written, it practically transports you to them. The vivid details, the well written descriptions of the shops, hotel rooms etc was a bonus to the reader. I just loved the fun that these two had in the exotic ports they would fly to. What a great read to escape the mundane and tedious life we lead!

Sienna and Kendi were tired of their jobs as VIP stewardess's for the Air Force. They were both looking for something more. Sienna was looking for an escape that was immediate and far away. She had just caught her fiance cheating on her. She was ready for something new and fast too. When they are both given the chance to become flight attendants to a prince from Saudi Arabia, they jump at the chance. What could be better? The money was more than they see in a year. The tips were enough to live the high life. They were ready or so they thought? You know that old saying "if it looks to good to be true, it usually is"? Well, Sienna and Kendi would soon find out.

A fun and flirty read to take to the beach or to lose yourself in while taking a bath. Sweet. Simple. Good.
