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From the Notebooks of a Middle School Princess

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Book Review

Title: From the Notebooks of a Middle School Princess

Author: Meg Cabot

Publisher: Scholastic Inc.

Publication Year: 2016

ISBN: 9781338114331

Number of Pages: 182

Interest Level: Intermediate

Rating: Excellent



Review

Olivia Grace Clarisse Mignonette Harrison is an ordinary sixth grader. Her life is mostly happy with her friends and her art. Her only big problem is that Annabelle Jenkins, the most popular girl in sixth grade, is going to beat her up after school. However, Olivia's ordinary life changes when Princess Mia Thermopolis of Genovia comes to school claiming Olivia as her sister. Olivia rides in a limousine to meet her royal father and grandmother in a hotel penthouse, but discovers being a princess comes with its own set of problems. The press will not leave her alone and always ask her mean questions. Now Olivia must also choose between living in America with her aunt and uncle and moving to Genovia with her dad. In the end, Olivia decides that Genovia is the place for her and after some struggle her father gets custody of her and takes her home to his palace.

This book is written as if Olivia was writing in her diary. This is not only a fun format choice for this book, but it also gives readers an opportunity to get to know Olivia on a deeper personal level. Readers can witness firsthand as Olivia's perspective on the world changes. Having the book be Olivia's diary also makes it possible for it to include many of Olivia's drawings which helps readers to get a feel for how she sees the world. This would be a great book for young fans of the Princess Diaries movies and books. It gives them another chance to interact with that world and its familiar characters. This book can make readers laugh, but also think about serious subjects such as friendship and family. From the Notebooks of a Middle School Princess leaves readers with the inspirational theme that love, kindness, and being a good person are more important than royalty and riches. This is a fun lighthearted book that many readers will enjoy.