Synopsis

Who is she? A dying king makes his son his heir--on one condition. Vain Prince Raphael must marry a woman who is his equal in beauty, intelligence, and wealth... Where is this woman? A search throughout the kingdom proves fruitless. Then the lovely Rosamund appears at the palace, as if by magic, and Raphael is certain he has found his wife. She is intelligent and wealthy, as well as beautiful--certainly his equal, he thinks. But what does the mysterious Rosamund think? Two-time Newbery Medalist Katherine Patersons critically-acclaimed original fairy tale about an arrogant prince and his search for a bride is now available in a reformatted chapter book edition. With beautiful new line art by Curtis Woodbridge, this provocative story with a contemporary social message (The New York Times Book Review) will become an instant classic for newly independent readers. An entertaining and enchanting story.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780 (What's this?)
Series: Trophy Chapter Books (Paperback)
Paperback: 64 pages
Publisher: HarperCollins; Ill edition (January 9, 1999)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0439098173
ASIN: 0064420906
Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.2 x 7.6 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (30 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #65,092 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Other #164 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Royalty #824 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Chapter Books
Age Range: 6 - 10 years
Grade Level: 2 - 5

Customer Reviews

I read this book to my 6th grade class and my students loved it. They just couldn't believe Raphael's arrogance. They believe his father made that demand on purpose because as arrogant as he was
they knew for sure that Prince Raphael would never find anyone his equal. His father feared his son getting his crown because he knew his people would suffer. My students really enjoyed how Rosamund turned things around and how Prince Raphael now wasn't Rosamund's equal. Prince Raphael really learned a lesson and that is that wealth, wisdom, and beauty are no substitute for loneliness and friendships. He learned that he must be kind and sensitive to others feelings and in turn people will be kind to him and he will gain friends for life.

I liked the book The King's Equal. I liked the book because Rosamund shows the prince how not to be selfish. I think people and kids should read this book because it shows how you should act and talk to people. Prince Raphael's father died and Raphael’s father gave him a blessing. His blessing was, "You should be married to your own equal but if you’re not then you will not wear my crown." Then Raphael searches for a wife. Up in the mountains there was a girl named Rosamund and she meets a wolf that talks then the wolf said that he was a good friend of her mother. And then he told her "Your mother gave you a blessing that you will be with your own equal". Then when Rosamund heard from the people that the prince was so selfish and took everything from the people and when she heard she felt very bad and the wolf made her a magic gold necklace. The prince saw Rosamund and said she was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen and when Raphael asked Rosamund to marry him she said, "If you want to marry me then you have to go to the mountains and take care of four goats and return after one year." Then a year goes by and when he returns he brings all of the goats back and when Rosamund saw him she said, "I will marry you." I learned from this book how not to be selfish in life.

I like this book. It was fun because in the kingdom the prince looks stupid. In the beginning of the book I don't like this book but as I keep reading it was fun and exciting. Rosamund told him "I am rich and intelligent and beatiful." I wonder how come she is intelligent, rich and beautiful. Raphael was very very very very very bad because Raphael closed the schools and took gold and money and some really important things. And then Rosamund told him, "You must go to the mountain and live with goats for 1 year." He came back to the castle and married with Rosamund and lived a good life. I learned your mind has to be open not closed.

I would recommend this book if only for the beautifully detailed illustrations. This is truly a wonderful book with a great message about the value of character and friendship rather than physical beauty and wealth. Not your typical fairy tale. Has a very positive, courageous girl character.
Great book for young children. Emphasize a lot on inner character. We as parents, would like our children to believe that good luck are more than just a pure luck sometimes, it is the result of keeping your moral and kindness under any circumstances. And the reason to keep positive lies in our conscious, not in wishing something good will follow.

I liked The King’s Equal. The story had cool characters. Rosamund told the prince to be nice because the prince took everything from the town people. I think people should read this story. The story is about Rosamund and Raphael, the prince who wants to marry Rosamund because Raphael can be king then. I learned lots of things from The King’s Equal, things about Rosamund, said she has no food. I learned about the wolf. I think the wolf was a magical wolf. People shouldn’t be selfish. The End

This little book is a great introduction to chapter books for young readers. The text is larger and while it has some challenging words it is not overwhelming. It is a lovely story about friendship and good values. My six year old read a chapter every day for a week and loved the story. It has not only improved her reading fluency but also her enjoyment of reading. I think this is the first time she has truly read to herself for pleasure. A big hit and a great improvement over those boring school readers.

Great early chapter book for young readers! Patterson’s story also shares a moral of why developing the personal characteristics of charity, kindness and hard work are more important than wealth or physical beauty.

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