

Princess in Waiting Study Guide

Princess in Waiting by Meg Cabot

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Plot Summary

Princess in Waiting is a novel in the Princess Diaries' series by author Meg Cabot. The story follows the main character, Amelia "Mia" Thermopolis, as she finishes her first official visit to Genovia after she finds out that she is the illegitimate daughter of the Prince of Genovia, making Mia an official princess. Prior to Mia's arrival in Genovia, she receives a kiss from Michael. Michael is the brother of her best friend, Lilly, and the boy she has been in love with forever. Michael, professes his love for her. Mia is counting the days until their winter break from school ends and she returns to New York City to reunite with Michael and the rest of her friends.

Mia struggles with juggling her duties as a royal with the things she wants to do as a regular teenager. One of the biggest issues that Mia has to deal with is her grandmother, Grandmere. Grandmere is providing princess lessons to Mia to teach her how to be a proper royal. Grandmere also dispenses some romantic advice on how Mia should handle Michael and other boys in order to win them over and to always keep them on their toes.

Mia constantly worries about Michael wanting to dump her and go out with other girls. Mia also feels very self-conscious about her looks and her abilities when she compares herself to Michael and her other friends. By the end of the novel, Michael and Mia are officially in love and Mia has discovered that her talent is writing because she is always writing in her journal.



Friday, January 1 and Saturday, January 2

Friday, January 1 and Saturday, January 2 Summary

Princess Amelia Mignonette Grimaldi Thermopolis Renaldo, who is 14 years and 8 months old is writing in her diary. She writes her New Year's Resolutions. She also mentions that Michael Moskovitz is her boyfriend.

Instead of spending her winter break in a fun place where she can recharge and get ready for the new semester, the Princess is spending time in parliament. The Princess of Genovia writes that nobody even cares about her opinion, which is why they are arguing over head with her father instead. The Princess says she's taking notes from the meeting because her Grandmere instructed her she to do so.

The Princess also writes about how she has had to overcome a lot in the past four months. She says she learned that her father is the Prince of Genovia and that she is the Princess and heir to his throne. She learned that her mother is pregnant with her algebra teacher's baby. The Princess also found out that her best friend Lilly's brother that she has loved since they were little loves her back and that her grandmother's duty is to train the Princess in her duties of being a Princess. The Princess wonders what this year could possibly bring her after such a busy time last year.

Friday, January 1 and Saturday, January 2 Analysis

The New Year's Resolutions of the Princess infer that she is not adhering to the rules she is supposed to be adhering to as a Princess. It also foreshadows that the Princess will continue to make mistakes and embarrass her family throughout the novel. Even though the Princess experience so many new things in the previous year, it foreshadows that this new year holds numerous upcoming events of its own.



Sunday, January 3 and Tuesday January 5

Sunday, January 3 and Tuesday January 5 Summary

The Princess writes a poem about her love for Michael. Then she says it sucks and she has to work on a fitting tribute to her love for him.

Grandmere is yelling at the Princess. She says that she doesn't know why since one of her resolutions is not to veer off the script when giving a speech to Genovian public. The Princess is supposed to be taking notes now as if the numerous lectures she's gotten since she gave her speech on the importance of cutting the six-packs holders so they don't get caught on the mouths of sealife in December weren't enough. The Princess is also complaining about how the castle she lives in doesn't have proper cable of wiring for the Internet. The latter makes it difficult to even email her best friend or boyfriend, whom are visiting their grandmother in Florida for winter break.

She also writes about how the castle doesn't have modern toilets and how the only person that is close to her age is her cousin, Prince Rene, who is four years older than her and a compulsive gambler.

She goes on to say that it has been 18 days since Michael and she professed their love for one another and were then torn apart. She hasn't even gone a proper date with him yet. Grandmere yells at the Princess to see if she is paying attention and asks if she is thinking about that boy, which the Princess admits she is both listening and thinking about Michael Moskovitz. She begs to make it the 13 days until she sees Michael, in her own mind and then writes Michael's name as it will be when they marry because Michael has to take her name as the future leader of Genovia.

Sunday, January 3 and Tuesday January 5 Analysis

The Princess infers that she broke her resolution and veered from the script when giving a speech to the Genovian people. Because teenage boys change their minds quickly, it foreshadows that in the time they've been apart and unable to communicate, Michael might meet another girl.



Friday, January 8, 2 am and Friday, January 8, 3 am

Friday, January 8, 2 am and Friday, January 8, 3 am Summary

The Princess starts to wonder if when Michael told her he loved her if he meant it platonically instead of passionately. The fact that he stuck his tongue in her mouth makes the Princess waver back to passionate love. The Princess decides that has one person she can call for help, which is a friend that got her own cell for Christmas and is skiing in Aspen right now.

Tina answers on the first ring. Tina is watching a Lifetime movie because she sprained her ankle. Tina asks how Prince William is and the Princess says they don't speak that much because her heart belongs to another, and he didn't find her speech on saving the sea turtles scintillating. Tina assures Mia, as she calls the Princess, that guys don't use the love word unless they mean it. When Tina finds out they haven't spoken since the night of the dance when Michael said he loves her, Tina tells Mia to call her back in five minutes—that she a plan.

When the Princess calls Tina back, she has the number to Michael's grandmother's condo in Florida and says Lilly is waiting for her call. Tina tells Mia it is best for her to find from Lilly if Michael loves her rather than trying to ask Michael over the phone. When Lilly answers, Mia goes off on a tangent, but Lilly reassures her that Michael hasn't met another girl and he still likes her. Lilly does mention that Mia forgot Michael's birthday.

Mia asks to speak to Michael and Lilly calls him to the phone without telling him who it is. Michael sounds genuinely happy to hear from her. She apologizes for missing his birthday and he says not to worry because he knows she's busy. He asks about her speech and she fills him in. she asks about his birthday and he fills her in. when he finds out everything she has to do the following day, he tells her to get some sleep. She tells him to hang up first. He tells her to hang up first. Lilly comes on the phone and tells them both to hang up because their grandmother has to use the phone.

Friday, January 8, 2 am and Friday, January 8, 3 am Analysis

The Princess is overanalyzing her relationship with Michael. This is typical teenager behavior, however. Mia feels as if no time at all has passed once she and Michael start talking on the phone. His normalcy reassures her that he doesn't have plans to dump her and that he still likes her.



Saturday, January 9, 2 pm and Saturday, January 9, 10 pm

Saturday, January 9, 2 pm and Saturday, January 9, 10 pm Summary

Mia is riding in the limo with Grandmere after leaving the Historical Society luncheon. She's mad at Grandmere for pinching her during the luncheon for falling asleep. Grandmere blames Michael for keeping the Princess on the phone too late.

Tina faxed over Mia's and Michael's astrological charts. She also charted them as a couple. The end result is that they are perfect for each other. This excites Mia to no ends.

Saturday, January 9, 2 pm and Saturday, January 9, 10 pm Analysis

Mia thinks that Grandmere is just jealous of the relationship she has with Michael. She thinks Grandmere is jealous because she'll never have a boyfriend like Michael. In spite of being a Princess, Mia is really just a normal teenager who wants to experience normal teenage things. She's also having to partake in her duties as a Princess, but she mostly finds these acts unnecessary and boring.



Sunday, January 10 and Monday, January 11, 1 am

Sunday, January 10 and Monday, January 11, 1 am Summary

Mia has been Michael's girlfriend for 23 days and she has no idea what to get him for his birthday. Mia has obtained a list from Tina, via Tina's mom, who used to date a sultan. She also has a list of appropriate gifts from her grandmother. She asks her mom and her dad. Although everyone gives suggestions, Mia thinks they are all unromantic. Then, she has to stop writing because the priest is looking at her for writing in her journal during mass.

Mia calls Michael to see what he wants for his birthday. He says seeing her in eight days is all the present that he needs. Before they hang up, Lilly demands to speak to Mia. She asks Mia if she saw the movie portraying her life and how they got it all wrong. Lilly says she's going to sue if they don't print an apology in the New York Times about portraying Lilly as an unsupportive best friend to Mia. Mia thinks about how she became friends with Tina in the first place because Lilly wasn't speaking her over the whole princess thing.

Sunday, January 10 and Monday, January 11, 1 am Analysis

Mia's relationships with her elders and her friends are all scrambled up since she became a princess. Her mother is more focused on having her baby. Her father is more focused on running Genovia. Her Grandmere is old-fashioned and Lilly is rather selfish.



Monday, January 11, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 10 am

Monday, January 11, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 10 am Summary

When Grandmere notices how tired Mia is again, she lectures her on not leaving herself open to other boys besides Michael. She goes on to say that the way to truly land a boy and keep his interest is to pretend as if you are disinterested. Grandmere tells Amelia to read *Jane Eyre* to see how men and women relate to each other. Mia just keeps counting the days until she sees Michael again. As Mia predicted, *Jane Eyre* is extremely boring.

Monday, January 11, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 10 am Analysis

Amelia's grandmother is trying to teach her the proper way to keep a boy's attention. The problem is that Amelia thinks her grandmother is old-fashioned and that her grandfather had no idea what he was getting himself into when he married Grandmere.



Tuesday, January 12, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 5 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 7 pm and Wednesday, January 13, 3 am

Tuesday, January 12, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 5 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 7 pm and Wednesday, January 13, 3 am Summary

Mia is reading Jane Eyre during a session of Parliament. She thinks the storyline is becoming increasingly interesting since Jane Eyre starts working for Mr. Rochester. Mia is still in the Parliament meeting. She is also still reading Jane Eyre. She has decided that Mr. Rochester is hot enough to make her list of hotties.

Mia thinks that Jane Eyre is a total idiot. She thinks Jane is being mean to Mr. Rochester and that it's not Mr. Rochester's fault.

Tuesday, January 12, 2 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 5 pm and Tuesday, January 12, 7 pm and Wednesday, January 13, 3 am Analysis

Mia relates everything that happens to her in life to that of a movie or a book. For example, she thinks of Mr. Rochester as a Wolverine or a Michael in his bossiness. Mia decides that she shouldn't base her life decisions on a fictional character. then, she contradicts herself and says that she should do things to keep Michael on his toes, such as not calling him right now.



Thursday, January 14 and Friday, January 15

Thursday, January 14 and Friday, January 15 Summary

Mia gets Lilly and Tina to read Jane Eyre. Lilly says she is going to act like that with her boyfriend Boris because it's playing games and childlike. Mia and Tina agree that whenever they want to call their boyfriends, they will call each other instead.

Mia starts making a list of what she needs to take care of before she leaves Genovia for New York.

Thursday, January 14 and Friday, January 15 Analysis

Mia is doing the exact opposite of what she thinks she do because she is following the logic of a book that her grandmother gave to her. Amelia's life is very conflicting. She is supposed to be living the glamorous life of a princess, but this life is really full of rules and a lot of obligations. She also wants to live the life of a normal teenager, but normalcy goes out the window when you are the princess of an entire country.



Saturday, January 16 and Monday, January 18

Saturday, January 16 and Monday, January 18 Summary

It's the night of the ball celebrating Princess Amelia's first visit to Genovia. Grandmere has made a big deal about getting the right dress and getting her hair right. Grandmere tells Amelia that it's her chance to make up for the six-pack-bottle-nose-dolphin debacle from her first speech to the populace. Instead, Amelia finds out that her grandmother simply wanted her to dance with Prince Rene for the Newsweek reporter that's doing a story.

Amelia is on the private jet back to New York with Grandmere instead of her father. Amelia believes her grandmother is only coming with her to continue to torture her, but Grandmere told her father it was because her princess lessons need to continue. Amelia tells her father that she will only put up with it if her grandmother doesn't try to sabotage her relationship with Michael anymore. Amelia tells her grandmother this herself over lunch on the private jet.

Saturday, January 16 and Monday, January 18 Analysis

Grandmere only cares about what the royal family and Genovia looks like in the eyes of the people. She doesn't think about people's feelings and emotions. Grandmere warns Amelia that she should get ready for some heartache, which foreshadows that she and Michael might not work out once they are back in the same city together and with a romantic relationship instead of Amelia being the best friend of Michael's sister.



Monday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 19

Monday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 19 Summary

Amelia is finally home. She is in her loft with her mom and stepdad. Her mom is starting to show, but still has four months left until the baby comes. Amelia picks up her cat Fat Louie and gives him a big hug. She notices his bowl is only half-full and fills it to the brim. She always keeps it full in case there is a plague and all humans die. She also notices that her stepfather has removed the Christmas tree before Easter and turned her mom's old darkroom into the nursery. Finally, he had DSL installed so they can get on the Internet without tying up the phone line. Then, her mom plays a message from Michael on the answering machine for Amelia.

Amelia takes the tape into her room and listens to it over and over again while she unpacks. Her mom comes in and when she finds out Amelia hasn't returned Michael's call, Amelia tells her all about the Jane Eyre plan. Her mom convinces her it is only polite to return his call, but before she can call before Michael's cutoff time of 11 pm, Grandmere calls to speak to her mother. Amelia logs online and IMs Michael instead. He asks her if she wants to go to the screening room on Friday to watch the original Star Wars.

It is the first day of school after winter break. Amelia wakes up very jet lagged since the time zones are different and she doesn't have a day of rest in between. Amelia tries to wake her mother up to ask her where her lucky underwear up, but instead asks if she can go on a date with Michael on Friday. Her mom says yes in her sleep. Amelia heads toward the limo so she can pick up Lilly and Michael for school.

Amelia gets out of the limo to open the door for Michael and Lilly instead of letting the driver. Amelia and Michael look into each other's eyes. When he asks if she can go on Friday and she says yes, Michael kisses her. When Amelia arrives at school, she realizes the new semester brings a new schedule, which means she might not share classes with Michael and might not see him as much.

Monday, January 18 and Tuesday, January 19 Analysis

Amelia is torn between her two lives. She has Grandmere steering her in the ways of the Genovian Royal Family. Then, she has her mom steering her in the way of a normal American teenager. Amelia is anticipating a bad schedule because she didn't wear her lucky underwear.



Tuesday, January 19 Algebra and Tuesday, January 19 Health and Safety

Tuesday, January 19 Algebra and Tuesday, January 19 Health and Safety Summary

Amelia finds out that all of her classes and lunch period with Michael are the same this semester as they were last semester. Michael comes into her algebra class to ask her about her schedule, even though he isn't in her class. He's happy everything is the same and says he'll see her at lunch. All of the other kids stare and whisper about Michael dating Amelia.

Mia and Lilly are bored during Health and Safety class. They start to make a new top 10 list of the hottest guys.

Tuesday, January 19 Algebra and Tuesday, January 19 Health and Safety Analysis

It is ironic that Amelia is tall, lanky, nerdy and socially inept, but has also landed one of the hottest guys in school, Michael. It is also ironic that Michael is a senior, but is dating Amelia when she is only a freshman.



Tuesday, January 19 Talented and Gifted and Tuesday, January 19 World Civ.

Tuesday, January 19 Talented and Gifted and Tuesday, January 19 World Civ. Summary

Amelia feels as if she has all of these things in her life that she should be grateful for, yet she still feels like she is a reject. The things she should be grateful for include being a princess, not being in Genovia right now, having a new lab partner that isn't her ex-boyfriend and great friends. What Mia realizes, however, is that she doesn't have a talent. As she looks around at Lilly, Michael, Boris, Tina, and her other friends, they all have talents, but she doesn't. When Lilly asks her what's wrong, Mia confesses because Michael has his headphones on writing a new song for his band. Lilly assures Mia she has a talent and it's staring her right in the face.

In World Civ. Mia learns about some different inventors and how they made the world a better place with their inventions. She also makes a list of the homework she has for each class, with her homework for Talented and Gifted class to discover what her talent is.

Tuesday, January 19 Talented and Gifted and Tuesday, January 19 World Civ. Analysis

Lilly is trying to tell Mia that her talent is writing. Obsessively writing in her journal and making lists solidifies that the talent Lilly is saying Mia has is her ability to write.



Tuesday, January 19 In Limo and Tuesday, January 19 Still in Limo

Tuesday, January 19 In Limo and Tuesday, January 19 Still in Limo Summary

On the way to Grandmere's for her princess lesson. Mia starts a new list of things she has to do. When the limo gets stuck in traffic on the way to her princess lesson, she decides to start on her English homework. It's to write a 500-word essay on how she spent her winter break.

Tuesday, January 19 In Limo and Tuesday, January 19 Still in Limo Analysis

Mia is compulsive about making her lists. It's also ironic that the homework she starts working on in the limo is her essay for English, yet she still cannot figure out what her talent is.



Wednesday, January 20 Homeroom and Wednesday, January 20 Outside Principal Guptas office

Wednesday, January 20 Homeroom and Wednesday, January 20 Outside Principal Guptas office Summary

Lars the limo driver tried to wake Amelia for her princess lesson, but she was so tired that she swatted him away and swore at him in French. She slept for 15 hours straight and didn't wake up until this morning. That morning, when she picked up Lilly and Michael, Lilly told her that the producers of her movie set up a breakfast meeting with her for Friday. When they arrive at school, they find out one of the cheerleaders sprained her ankle on break so they are holding tryouts for a substitute. During homeroom, a student comes from the front office with a hall pass for Mia.

Mia is summoned to the principal's office. She starts analyzing all of the reasons she could be called to the principal on the second day of the new semester. Then, she hears a familiar voice coming from inside the office.

Wednesday, January 20 Homeroom and Wednesday, January 20 Outside Principal Guptas office Analysis

The hall pass is summoning Mia for bad news that Mia doesn't want to hear. It is Grandmere inside talking to the principal. She is probably going to convince the principal that Amelia needs to spend time working on her princess lessons. The time normally spent in talented and gifted class might be assigned to princess lessons, which will reduce the amount of time Amelia gets to spend with Michael.



Wednesday, January 20 Grandmere's Limo and Wednesday, January 20 Gifted and Talented

Wednesday, January 20 Grandmere's Limo and Wednesday, January 20 Gifted and Talented Summary

When Grandmere exits the principal's office, she's talking a him recovering soon. Amelia starts to panic, thinking that her dad's cancer is back. When they get to the limo, Grandmere tells Amelia her father is fine and that she just need to get her out of school for a personal day. They arrive at Chanel and Grandmere tells Amelia she needs a gown for a black and white ball on Friday. In the limo on the way back to school, Amelia tries to explain to Grandmere that she can't go to the ball because she has a date with Michael. As the limo arrives back at school, Grandmere tells Amelia she'll have to cancel because a princess's people come first and her heart comes second.

When she gets back to school, the whole school knows that Grandmere came to pick her up because something is wrong with her dad. Amelia chickens out doesn't tell Michael she has to cancel their date. She calls home and talks with her mom. Her mom apologizes, but tries to convince her that it is very Jane Eyre to cancel her date with Michael.

In Talented and Gifted class, Lilly writes notes back and forth with Mia to find out what's wrong. Mia finally admits that her grandmother just came to get her to go shopping at Chanel.

Wednesday, January 20 Grandmere's Limo and Wednesday, January 20 Gifted and Talented Analysis

The problem is that Amelia has already made plans to be with Michael on Friday. Once again, her princess duties are interfering with her ability to be a normal teenager. There is foreshadowing that Mia is going to lie to get out of her date with Michael. When Michael finds out the truth, he is going to break up with Mia and break her heart.



Wednesday, January 20 Sixth Period and Wednesday, January 20 Limo

Wednesday, January 20 Sixth Period and Wednesday, January 20 Limo Summary

Mia calls her friends for a meeting in the stairwell at school during sixth period to get their help with her dilemma. Tina is also having a dilemma. Her boyfriends texted her that she didn't call him so he's taking another girl to the dance. Mia is using her bodyguard Lars as the lookout so they don't get caught skipping class and receive school suspension.

Amelia realizes that her grandmother is trying to break her and Michael up. She comes to this realization when she goes to her princess lesson to find that her cousin Prince Rene is in New York. Amelia decides that she has to convince her grandmother to allow Michael to be her escort to the ball, which would solve both the fate of the Genovian country and her relationship with Michael. When Amelia asks if Michael can be her escort, Grandmere says Prince Rene is her escort.

Wednesday, January 20 Sixth Period and Wednesday, January 20 Limo Analysis

Because of Dave breaking up with Tina, Mia decides she cannot risk her relationship with Michael by canceling her date with him.



Wednesday, January 20 The Loft and Thursday, January 21 Homeroom

Wednesday, January 20 The Loft and Thursday, January 21 Homeroom Summary

Mia's mom tries to get in touch with her dad about the ball. Her dad is stuck in filibuster over the parking issue in Genovian Parliament, so her mom hasn't been able to talk to him. Mia's mom suggests that Mia call Michael, which is to prepare him for the fact that she might have to cancel on Friday, so that when she does it won't hurt as bad. Mia gets online to IM Michael, but Tina IMs Mia instead. Mia passes her mother's advice along to Tina, saying that if Dave breaks up with her for not returning his call, then he is not worthy of Tina and she'll find another boy that is. She tells Tina she has to go IM her dad, but she's really going to IM Michael. Mia IMs Michael asking if there is a later showing of Star Wars and he says yes. When he asks her why, she tries to change the subject, suggesting names for his band. Michael asks her if she's worried her princess lessons will run over. Instead of saying yes, she tells Michael she can probably get out early.

Over breakfast, Mr. G, Mia's stepdad is looking for his pants. Her mom is missing her Winona Ryder t-shirt and Mia still hasn't found her Queen Amilda underpants, which are her lucky undies. They realize that the bag of laundry they sent to the wash-and-fold place the night before Mia left for Genovia never came back. Since the bag of clean laundry sometimes sits in the vestibule of the building to be picked up by one of them, they assume someone stole. The news reporters go through their garbage all the time to try to get information on Princess Amelia. Mia's mom makes a police report.

Wednesday, January 20 The Loft and Thursday, January 21 Homeroom Analysis

Mia mimics the advice she gets from others and passing it off as advice to her friends and other people she knows. Instead of telling Michael the truth about the ball upfront, she starts to let the lies pile up in hopes that she is going to get out of going to the ball in the next few days. The problem is that lies that go on like this tend to get bigger and more out of control than what the truth really is, which means lying causes a bigger mess, which in this case could lead to what Mia is afraid of—Michael breaking up with her.



Thursday, January 21 Algebra and Thursday, January 21 Health and Safety

Thursday, January 21 Algebra and Thursday, January 21 Health and Safety Summary

In homeroom, Mia overhears her arch enemy, Lana, saying she has a black and white dance she has to go to on Friday night. Mia also overhears Lana saying that she's not taking her boyfriend, Josh Richter, because he acts immature at these things. Lana says there will college boys there from West Point. While Mr. G is going over the answers to their algebra homework, Mia makes a list of things she has to do.

During Health and Safety, Mia and Lilly writes notes back and forth about two of their teachers that they think are dating. Then, they decide to make a list. Lilly writes about what she thinks are the hottest shows on TV and Mia writes the commentary.

At lunch, Tina announces that she's giving up romance novels, which she loves to read. Mia and Lilly make a list for Tina on romance novels and the lessons they learned from them. Tina agrees that she can't give up reading the novels. Then, Shameeka announces she's trying out for cheerleading.

Thursday, January 21 Algebra and Thursday, January 21 Health and Safety Analysis

When Lana shows up at the ball and sees Mia there with Prince Rene, Lana is going to run back and tell Michael. Michael is going to find out that Mia lied to him. They are going to get into a big fight and Michael is going to break up with her.

Even though Shameeka says her joining the squad won't change anything, they all know that it will. While it might not change that she's Lilly's camerawoman for her local TV show and Mia's bio partner, they know all of her spare time will be practicing and riding to away games.



Thursday, January 21 French and Thursday, January 21 Limo

Thursday, January 21 French and Thursday, January 21 Limo Summary

Tina and Mia have to write an essay for their French teacher as punishment for skipping the class the previous day. Mia's father got her out of having to go to the black and white ball. Her father says there is no family feud between their family and the contessa's family. He says the only feud is between the contessa and Grandmere, and that Grandmere is just trying to show off. Mia writes a poem about Michael, comparing their love to that of the love story in Star Wars. Then, she makes another list, which still includes discovering her talent.

When Mia shows up for her princess lessons, Grandmere isn't dressed and she is in total disarray. She says Mia doesn't love her because she won't go to the ball.

Thursday, January 21 French and Thursday, January 21 Limo Analysis

Mia realizes that her grandmother is human. She understands that Grandmere has a competitive and combative relationship with the contessa like Mia has with Lana. Mia relents and tells her grandmother that she'll make an appearance at the ball. Mia decides to tell Michael the following morning in the limo because Lilly has her breakfast meeting with the producers of Mia's movie.



Thursday, January 21 The Loft and Friday, January 22 Homeroom

Thursday, January 21 The Loft and Friday, January 22 Homeroom Summary

Mia watches the movie about her life that made Lilly so mad. Tina tries to reassure Mia that Michael isn't going to break up with her for canceling their date, but is convinced he will. When Mia tells Michael she has to break their date, he says he understands, that her duties come first. Mia thinks his face says something different—that he's going to dump her. in homeroom, they announce that the new cheerleader to the squad is Shameeka.

Thursday, January 21 The Loft and Friday, January 22 Homeroom Analysis

Mia finally realizes that her life as a royal prohibits her from having a totally normal teenage life.



Friday, January 22 Algebra and Friday, January 22 Health and Safety

Friday, January 22 Algebra and Friday, January 22 Health and Safety Summary

Michael doesn't come to Mia's algebra class to see her on the way to his English class. It's the first time he hasn't this week, so Mia believes it is further proof he's going to break up with her after the ball.

In Health and Safety class, Lilly and Mia are writing notes to each other. Lilly asks if something happened with her brother. Lilly assures Mia that he isn't going to break up with her and that Michael really likes her. Lilly also tells Mia that the producers of Mia's movie want to try to get Lilly's local access show onto a cable network.

Friday, January 22 Algebra and Friday, January 22 Health and Safety Analysis

Mia tries to avoid telling Lilly what happened with Michael. She's afraid that Lilly knows something that Mia doesn't want to hear. When Lilly tells Mia good news, it helps to reassure Mia, so Mia's mood swings to a more positive side once again.



Friday, January 22 Gifted and Talented and Friday, January 22 Grandmere's Suite at the Plaza

Friday, January 22 Gifted and Talented and Friday, January 22 Grandmere's Suite at the Plaza Summary

Everyone shares good news in lunch, except for Michael. This is because Michael doesn't come to lunch. He tells Mia he has things to do in between classes and that he'll see her in Gifted and Talented. The list Mia makes for homework is foreboding.

The hairdresser gets Mia ready for the ball. Even Mia has to admit that she looks pretty good on the outside, considering how she feels on the inside.

Friday, January 22 Gifted and Talented and Friday, January 22 Grandmere's Suite at the Plaza Analysis

Mia thinks the fact that Michael is focusing on his band means that he doesn't love her and wants to break up with her. It seems the opposite is true. Michael is acting normal because for him nothing has changed. Mia is reading something different in his actions.



Friday, January 22 Bathroom at Contessa Trevanni's Mansion and Friday, January 22 Moscovitz Bathroom

Friday, January 22 Bathroom at Contessa Trevanni's Mansion and Friday, January 22 Moscovitz Bathroom Summary

When Grandmere introduces Amelia to the contessa, she introduces Prince Rene as Amelia's beau. This is a problem because just a few people behind her in line is Lana. Mia confronts Grandmere about what she is trying to do and Grandmere agrees to stop calling Rene her boyfriend if Mia dances with him. When Mia resists, Grandmere says Mia owes her because of a missing piece from the Genovian museum, which is the present Mia stole to give to Michael for his birthday.

While Mia is dancing with Rene, he asks her why the blonde girl keeps looking at them. Mia says it's Lana. Mia also starts to feel sorry for Lana and suggests when they are done dancing that Rene ask Lana to dance. Rene finds out that Mia wants to leave to meet up with Michael, so he agrees to help her escape, which is why she is hiding in the bathroom.

Mia is in the bathroom at Michael's apartment and she doesn't think he's going to break up with her after all. When Mia arrives in her ball gown and tiara, Michael invites her in. they go into the kitchen, where he cooks a meal for them and the escorts Mia into the living room. Michael has a card table and chairs set up in front of the TV that is frozen on the opening of Star Wars. Michael says since they couldn't go to the screening room, he brought the screening room to them. Mia finds out Michael's whole family was involved in recreating the date for them. When Mia mentions him breaking up with her, he says he loves her. When she asks how he loves her, he kisses her.

Mia gives Michael his present, which is a piece of moon rock. Michael says this will be a hard act to follow for her birthday.

Friday, January 22 Bathroom at Contessa Trevanni's Mansion and Friday, January 22 Moscovitz Bathroom Analysis

Mia is learning to have empathy for other people and their situations. For example, she thinks about how shallow Lana is but how she must feel dancing at the ball with an old guy that must be one of Lana's father's friends.



Saturday, January 23 The Loft

Saturday, January 23 The Loft Summary

The next morning, Mia finishes writing in her journal because Lilly had cut her off the night before. Lilly banged on the bathroom door to find Mia writing in her journal. Lilly says she can't believe Mia still hasn't figured out what she's good at yet. Mia's neighbor shows up with their bag of lost laundry, saying it got mixed up with hers and that she was out of the country and just noticed.

Mia ended up telling Michael about not knowing what her secret talent is. Michael reveals to Mia that it's writing. After bowling with Michael and Boris another night, Mia decides to write a bill for the sea turtles to submit to the Genovian Parliament.

Saturday, January 23 The Loft Analysis

Mia is learning slowly, how to balance her life as a teenager with her life as a princess.



Characters

Amelia

Amelia, whose friends call her Mia, is the illegitimate daughter of the Prince of Genovia. When her mother refused to marry her father, she didn't tell him she was pregnant, so Mia finds out as a freshman in high school that she is really a princess and a member of the royal Genovian family.

Amelia is very tall and lanky. Her hair is curly and untamed. She feels very self-conscious. Throughout the novel, Mia grandmother, Grandmere, is providing lessons to her on how to be a princess. Mia is constantly writing in her journal. Right before she left New York for her first official visit to Genovia, her best friend's brother, Michael, confesses his love for Mia. This puts Mia over the moon because she has been in love with Michael forever.

Mia tries to continue to be a normal teenager, but her princess duties always seem to get in the way. She also has a tendency to overanalyze situations, which causes her to have wild mood swings, from one extreme to another.

Michael Moscovitz

Michael Moscovitz is a senior that attends the same school as Amelia in New York City. Michael is also the older brother of Amelia's best friend, Lilly. Michael is tall and handsome. He is the third most popular boy in the high school.

Michael loves music. When Mia returns to New York from Genovia, Michael is in the process of putting together a band. In addition, Michael also loves computers. He receives a laptop as a birthday gift from his parents and spend his whole winter break in Florida on the laptop.

Michael really does love Mia. They share a lot of things in common, such as their love for Star Wars. He is also very thoughtful. When Mia cannot make her first official date with him because she has to go to a ball, Michael recreates the place where they were going to have dinner and watch Star Wars in his own home.

Lilly Moscovitz

Lilly Moscovitz is Mia's best friend and Michael's younger sister. Lilly seems to be very self-centered. When she finds out that Mia is a princess, at first, she is not very supportive. Lilly gets mad at the portrayal of herself in a made-for-TV movie they make about Mia. Lilly writes a letter to the producers and ends up landing a breakfast meeting them.



Lilly has her own local access TV show. When she meets with the movie producers, they offer to try to get her show on a cable network. Lilly has a long-term boyfriend, Boris, who is also a member of her brother's band.

Grandmere

Grandmere is a dowager princess. She is Mia's paternal grandmother. She is in her 70s. Grandmere has made it her job to teach Mia how to be a proper princess. Grandmere has eyebrows that are painted on and her dog, Rommel is always with Grandmere. She is always meddling in the love lives of both her son, Mia's father, and Mia.

Prince of Genovia

The Prince of Genovia is Mia's father. He is a cancer survivor, so he is still bald because his hair never grew back. Mia mentions her father dating one woman that is a trapeze artist and a bareback horse rider as well. Grandmere exasperates the prince as much as she does Mia. He didn't know about Mia until she was already a freshman in high school. The prince often acts as a referee between Mia and Grandmere.

Mom

Mia's mom is rather eclectic. She is married to Mia's algebra teacher and they are expecting a baby. Mia's mom was in love with Mia's dad, but refused to marry him because of the rules she would have to live by as a royal. After they broke up, Mia's mom found out she was pregnant with Mia, but never tells Mia's father.

Mr. G

Mr. G is the algebra teacher at Mia's school. He is also Mia's stepdad. He seems to be a quiet and laidback man. He is often the referee between the arguments and scuffles that take place between Mia and Lana.

Tina

Tina is one of Mia's friends. Tina is the daughter of an oil sheikh. Tina is also a romantic, so she is always reading romance novels and dishing out romance advice. She has a long-term boyfriend, Dave. When Tina tries to implement advice she gleans from Jane Eyre into her relationship, Dave breaks up with Tina, which leaves her heartbroken.



Prince Rene

Prince Rene is a distant relative of Mia's royal family. He attends a French college and smokes cigarettes. Mia thinks that Grandmere is trying to fix up Rene and Mia so they can marry later in life. Rene turns out to be an aid to Mia, helping her escape from the ball so that she can go be with Michael.

Lana

Lana is a cheerleader at Mia's high school. She is also Mia's arch enemy. Lana and Mia try to make each other's lives terrible. Mia ends up trying to hook Lana up with Prince Rene, even though Lana dates the cutest boy in school.



Objects/Places

Genovia

Genovia is the country or French principality where Mia and her father are the prince and princess. They speak French, so Mia has to learn the language when she finds out that she is part of the royal family. Mia is in Genovia on her first official visit as a princess when the novel opens.

Manhattan

Mia grew up and still lives in Manhattan in a loft with mother and stepfather. Mia spent her whole life in Manhattan until she found out that her father is a prince and she is a princess. The city represents Mia's normal life as a teenager because she gets to be herself, attend school, go out with her friends, and live more of a normal life when she is in Manhattan.

Albert Einstein High School

Albert Einstein High School is the private school in Manhattan that Mia and her friends attend. They have to wear school uniforms to school. Mia has her limo pick up Lilly and Michael each morning so they can drive to school together. Michael and Mia get to spend time together at school in a shared class and during lunch period.

Journal

Mia is constantly writing in her journal. In fact, the novel is formatted as journal entries written by Mia. Mia writes in her journal in mass, in parliament meetings, in class and just about everywhere she goes.

Limo

The limo is Mia's transportation to and from school and anywhere else she needs to go. She has a driver and a bodyguard that travels with everywhere in the limo. Mia also gets to spend time with Michael and Lilly because they ride to and from school with Mia.

Plaza

The Plaza is the hotel where Grandmere has a suite while she is in New York. This is where Mia goes to have her princess lessons with Grandmere. The suite in the Plaza is also where the hairdresser gets Mia ready to attend the black and white ball.



Screening Room

The Screening Room is a theater that also serves dinner while patrons are watching the movie. It is supposed to be where Mia and Michael go on their first official date to watch Star Wars. When Mia has to cancel, Michael recreates the Screening Room in his living room so that they can still have their first date together after the black and white ball.

Tiara

Mia wears a tiara as a princess for her official social duties. She is wearing the tiara, along with her gown, when she shows up at Michael's apartment. When Mia realizes she is still wearing the tiara, she rips it off her head before she enters Michael's apartment.

Moon Rock

The moon rock was part of the artifacts in the museum that belongs to the royal family in Genovia. When Mia is trying to decide what to get Michael for his birthday, she decides to take one of the moon rocks from the museum. Mia gives Michael the moon rock on their date at his house after the black and white ball.

Jane Eyre

Jane Eyre is the novel Grandmere gives to Mia. Grandmere tells Mia it is a guide as to how women should interact with men. Mia shares it with Lilly and Tina. Mia and Tina decide to implement Jane Eyre's ways of treating Mr. Rochester into their own relationships.



Themes

Relationships

One of the primary themes running through the novel is relationships. The novel reveals that even the individuals that make up a family have different relationships among the family members. For example, Mia and her father, and Mia and her mother, have a closer relationship than Mia has with her grandmother. Even Mia's father seems to have a troubled relationship with Grandmere.

Friendship is another type of relationship the novel tackles. Mia has very close friends. These are friends she had before she found out that she is a princess. Some of her friends, namely Lilly, have a hard time dealing with the fact that she is a member of a royal family. Eventually, Mia's friends learn to treat her the same that they have always treated her.

Romantic relationships are also tackled in the novel. Mia has her first true love and romantic relationship when she starts dating Michael. Lilly has a relationship with Boris and Tina has a relationship with Dave. Each relationship is different.

Coming of Age

One of the primary themes that run throughout the novel is growing up and coming of age, even against struggling with trying to maintain the life of a normal teenager while also being a princess. Mia struggles with the fact that her coming of age includes her having to carry out duties as a princess that interfere with the things she wants to do as a teenager.

Additionally, each of the characters in the novel is dealing with the coming of age of dealing with high school and their teenage years of dating. This forces several of the characters to deal with adult issues, such as how boyfriends and girlfriends should interact with each other.

Mia especially struggles with her feelings about herself as a person and how Michael truly feels about her. After her evaluation, Mia even starts to feel empathy for people, such as Grandmere and Lana, that she typically despises.

Family

Family is the central theme throughout the entire novel. This is because the storyline is about the lives of this particular family - the royal Genovia family. While every family has their trials and tribulations, Mia's family has its own family dynamics that are the same and that are different from those of other families. In the end though, they are a family and they will get through it together, one way or the other.

Style

Point of View

The novel is written in the first-person point of view, from the perspective of main character, Amelia Thermopolis. The novel swings back and forth between the present and the past. The present represents the time after Mia becomes a princess. The past represents the time leading up her finding out she is a princess.

The point of view of this novel is intimate, allowing a reader to connect closely with the main character, Mia. The book written in this manner allows the reader to get inside Mia's head, thoughts, and inner struggles because the novel is composed of Mia's journal entries. The reader cares what happens to the narrator. The point of view also allows the author to inject her own opinions into the narration and to expand on the events taking place around the other characters and the occurrences taking place.

Setting

The novel has two primary settings. The first primary setting is in Genovia, which is a French principality. The second primary setting is Manhattan in New York City. The novel is set during the 21st century. The main characters are involved in the trials and tribulations of dealing with their high school years. Mia is constantly trying to live a normal teenage life, while balancing her duties as a princess.

The setting of this novel works well with the plot. At first, the reader is not aware that Mia is just learning how to be a princess rather than having been born into the royal life. However, as events unfold, her transition is a constant part of the plot, the lives of the characters, and even the outcome of the novel.

Language and Meaning

The language of this novel is relatively simple and easy to read. The language is from the 21st century, which is when the novel is set. The language is descriptive enough that it helps to explain the situations and is detailed enough for the reader to truly understand.

Structure

The novel is divided into Mia's journal entries, so it is by dates, times and places. Each journal entry ranges from one line to 10 pages long. The journal entries tell the story primarily in exposition and with some dialogue. The narrator injects her own voice and thoughts throughout the book, providing her opinions and feelings of the events unfolding in the novel.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot is that of human relationships such as friendship and romance. One subplot is the coming of age of the characters, primarily Mia. Another subplot is family relationships.



Quotes

"Oh you are so lucky, you get to spend Christmas in a castle being waited on hand and foot" (Tuesday, January 5, p. 4).

"Secondly, he is not going to go out with some girl named Tiffany, because he likes you" (Friday, January 8, p. 12).

"I was never unsupportive of your royalness" (Monday, January 11 p. 20).

"I don't to hear anything more about how I'm too young to be in love" (Monday, January 18, p. 30).

"However, if a boy leaves a nice message on the answering machine like Michael did, it could hardly be misconstrued as chasing for you to do the polite thing and return his call" (Monday, January 18, The Loft p. 34).

"Mom, I need my Queen Amilda panties. Where are they" (Tuesday, January 19 First Day of School p. 40).

"Cool, see you at lunch" (Tuesday, January 19 Algebra, p. 44).

"You have a talent" (Tuesday, January 19 Gifted and Talent, p. 50).

"I called you last night but your mom said you'd passed out" (Wednesday, January 20 Homeroom, p. 54).

"Don't be ridiculous. Your father isn't going to have to go back to the hospital just because I told a little white lie to an academic administrator" (Wednesday, January 20 Grandmere's Limo, p. 57).

"I d-don't want someone b-better. I only want D-Dave" (Wednesday, January 20 Sixth Period, p. 62).



"Prince Rene has generously offered to serve as your escort to the ball" (Wednesday, January 20 Limo, p. 67).

"No boy is going to dump you because you have to cancel a date. If any boy does, then he wasn't worth going out with anyway" (Wednesday, January 20 The Loft, p. 70).

"Well, I still haven't found my Queen Amilda underwear" (Thursday, January 21 Homeroom, p. 72).

"Every year she has this stupid dance where everybody has to dress up in black and white" (Thursday, January 21 Algebra, p. 73).

"Hey, did you get all your homework done, or were you up all night instant messaging my brother instead" (Chap. 16, p. 75).

"And I was hoping that just this once, by revealing what a lovely and accomplished granddaughter I have, I could show her up" (Thursday, January 21 Limo, p. 82).

"Clearly Michael loves you more than just a friend" (Thursday, January 21 The Loft, p. 85).

"No, really, Mia. I understand. You're a Princess. Duty comes first" (Friday, January 22 Homeroom, p. 86).

"I didn't know her hair was in my book. Why can't she keep her hair to herself anyway" (Friday, January 22 Algebra, p. 86).

"Did something between you and my brother? Because I saw him looking all furtive in the hallway just now" (Friday, January 22 Gifted and Talent, p. 87).

"And of course you know Amelia's beau, Prince Pierre Rene Grimadli Alberto" (Friday, January 22 Contessa's Bathroom of Mansion, p. 92).

"Well, you couldn't make it to the Screening Room, so I brought the Screening Room to you" (Friday, January 22 Moscovitz's Bathroom, p. 97).

"I think it's pretty obvious, Mia, that you're a writer" (Saturday, January 23 The Loft, p. 103).

Topics for Discussion

Who is the true Amelia? Do you think her current personality is a result of her becoming a princess? Why does she choose to rebel against Grandmere? Why do you think she is so hung up on Michael? What does Carrie ultimately realize about her relationship with Grandmere?

Discuss the relationship between Mia and Lilly. Are they friends, foes, or somewhere in between? Is there true competition in their relationship? How does Mia feel about Lilly? How does Lilly feel about Mia? How do Lilly's feelings change after Mia and Michael start dating?

Discuss the relationship between Mia and Michael. Are they friends, in a relationship or somewhere in between? Is there true competition in their relationship? How does Mia feel about Michael? How does Michael feel about Mia? How do Mia's feelings change after she finds out Michael loves her? What does she do about it? What happens to Michael?

Discuss the relationship between Mia and her mother. How does Mia feel about her mother? How does her mother feel about Carrie? How do Mia's feelings change now that she knows who her father is? What does she do about it? What happens to their relationship?

Discuss the relationship between Mia and Grandmere. Does Grandmere truly love Mia or is she just concerned about her representation of the royal family? Is there true competition in their relationship? How does Mia feel about Grandmere? How does Grandmere feel about Mia? How does Mia express her feelings about Grandmere? What happens to Grandmere?

Who is Michael Moscovitz? Is he going out with Mia because she is a princess or does he really love her? Why do you think Michael alters his behavior when he finds out Mia can't go on their date? What does Michael surprise Mia with?

Discuss Mia's desire to write. What impact does it have on the characters of the novel? How does it motivate them and how does it derail their lives? Do you think now that she knows her talent is writing style that it will change her life?