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H.R.H. (Danielle Steel)



Synopsis

In a novel where ancient traditions conflict with reality and the pressures of modern life, a young European princess proves that simplicity, courage, and dignity win the day and forever alter her world. In blue jeans and a pullover, Princess Christianna is a young woman of her times: born in Europe, educated in America, worried about the future of the world she lives in, responsible beyond her years. Christianna is the only daughter of the Reigning Prince of a European nation that takes its royalty seriously and her father has ironclad plans for Christianna's life, a burden that is almost unbearable. Now, after four years at Berkeley, life in her father's palace cannot distract Christianna from what she sees outside the kingdom—the suffering of children, the ravages of terrorism and disease. Determined to make a difference in the world, she persuades His Royal Highness, her father, to let her volunteer for the Red Cross in East Africa. And for Christianna, a journey of discovery, change, and awakening begins. Under a searing East African sun, Christianna plunges into the dusty, bustling life of an international relief camp, finding a passion and a calling among the brave doctors and volunteers. Finally free from the scrutiny of her royal life, Christianna struggles to keep her identity a secret from her new friends and coworkers—even from Parker Williams, the young doctor from Doctors Without Borders who works alongside Christianna and shares her dedication to healing. But as violence approaches and invades the camp, and the pressures of her royal life beckon her home, Christianna's struggle for freedom takes an extraordinary turn. By a simple twist of fate, in one shocking moment, Christianna's life is changed forever—in ways she never could have foreseen. From the splendor of a prince's palace to the chaos of war-torn nations, Danielle Steel takes us into fascinating new worlds. Filled with unforgettable images and a remarkable cast of characters, H.R.H. is a novel of the conflict between old and new worlds, responsibility versus freedom, and duty versus love. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

This story was about a Princess who wanted to use her life to do something meaningful. She feels trapped in her life of royalty because it is so restrictive to her. She is finally allowed to go to Africa to work for a short time with the Red Cross, and meets a man there. He is not Royalty, so this causes a big problem for them. This book was nice, but it was not very captivating. The characters were pretty cut and dry and not very interesting. The Princess was perfect and studious, the Prince (her father) was loving and controlling, and her brother was wild and irresponsible. Also, the story was very repetitive, and the main thoughts and ideas of the characters were told to you instead of the reader piecing together and actually thinking about the characters and situations. Most of the story and events were told and explained without using dialogue or the characters' own thoughts. This was an okay story but I would only recommend it for someone who has an intense interest in working with Red Cross Relief or an interest in modern day lives of royalty.

I love reading, and I actually like Mrs Steels' books very much. So when I saw this book in the local supermarket, I happily grabbed it. What a disappointment! I should have read the reviews first and saved the money... what a horrible piece of drivel. As other readers said, it's repetitive, boring, and long winded. The Royal Highness is altogether too perfect, if I ever met such a person in real life I'd scream! After the umtieth description of her boredom and what was required of her, I wanted to yell "Yes I KNOW, get on with it!" And when she finally did get on with it, things didn't get better..... my advice is don't waste your money on this book, borrow it from the library instead.

H.R.H. I've been trying to read this book but it is SO repetitive and redundant that I'm having a hard time getting into it. It's a chore to read! I'm a quarter of the way through it and for the most part, I don't know more than I did from the first several pages. I came here to see what other readers have said and found that many others feel the same way. I'm truly concerned for those that "loved" it. I don't see how anyone could unless they skip pages and don't really read every one. I don't think I'll finish it. It's too boring!

this.. is romance? like other reviewers have already mentioned before me, but this is some REAL repetitive stuff. i can't help but feel like a child led by the hand down a long, LONG hallway. no offense to danielle steel at all, but i like reading my books and making my own judgments on characters, rather than have them FED to me. sentences structured like "she was crying because she was so sad" seem to stating the overtly obvious. and stop telling me how NOBLE the damn princess is! i get it already! i can't help but feel like the author believes her readers incapable of thought when she keeps stating the obvious repeatedly. perfection in a princess is nice. but throw in a flaw or two. it keeps things interesting and lets readers relate in some way or another. it adds depth of character, makes it realistic. it annoys me that every character in there is a cardboard cutout; the princess is a barbie doll, the doctor is obviously ken. and the ending is altogether too abrupt. that's it? she's not gonna find out what happened? she gets what she wants and she's happy? well, geez, there's an extremely shallow character for you. thank god i only borrowed this from the library. sad to say, i've heard so many good things about danielle steel. PLEASE tell me she does not write all her books this way. i'm surprised this one got published at all. i don't know, maybe that's just me. maybe cardboard cutouts can be entertaining since they're the "ideal"? i can't possibly think from that perspective, so sorry if i've offended anyone, folks. just not my cup of tea.

I love this novel. Christianna is caught between loyalty to the crown and duty to her heart. Finds life as a royal boring into she goes to Africa where she finds purpose and love. But the love of her life is a commoner. What is she to do? This novel has plenty of suspense and surprise. You will find this book worth reading.

I have read every Danielle Steel book. The last few have been only ok, but this one is terrible. The characters are totally one dimensional and do not represent people as much as fairy tale characters - the good princess, the good doctor, the tyrannical royal father, the dead mother, the playboy, the party girl...blah blah blah. This story is not worth reading. I should stop reading these books, but I keep hoping for a good one. I loved Family Album, The Wedding, Once in a Lifetime, Heartbreaker, Missed Blessings....but the quality took a sharp turn for the worse in the last few years. I understand from the author's dedications that she has a lot of children, but how much money do they need? Obviously with the volume of books she is putting out, quality is going to suffer.

H.R.H. was a disappointing book. The heroine, Princess Christianna was a totally self absorbed

young lady who we are told repeatedly was giving of herself. She clearly despises visiting the sick and orphans who are her country people, yet is consumed with doing exactly this type of activity when it is in Africa. She despises her lack of meaningful activity, but then visits London and parties all night and finds it fulfilling. When faced with crisis, she totally dissolves into tears and makes no effort to pull herself together. When her presence may mean danger to others, she thinks only of what she wants to do herself. The presentation of Africa/ Africans was at least 30 years out of date. The treatment of Africa as a single entity (instead of a variety of countries) was demeaning to the continent, as well as the suggestion that local Eritreans didn't have local midwives until someone arrives from Europe. Within the "medical compound" where Christianna stays in Eritrea, there are aids patients, but apparently no critical illness or death, because the staff doesn't have any night shifts. The local peoples are relegated to pouring water over the Europeans for their showers, rather than being able to do any meaningful activity, and they prepare western food, apparently because the local food is unacceptable to the volunteers who supposedly "love" Africa. Danielle Steel would do a service to her readers by doing a little bit of research.

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