



The Princess and the Fangirl

Written by Ashley Poston

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The Princess and the Fangirl

By Ashley Poston

The Princess And The Frog

The Prince and the Pauper gets a modern makeover in this adorable, witty, and heartwarming young adult novel set in the Geekerella universe by national bestselling author Ashley Poston.

The Princess And The Pea

Imogen Lovelace is an ordinary fangirl on an impossible mission: save her favorite character, Princess Amara, from being killed off from her favorite franchise, Starfield. The problem is, Jessica Stone—the actress who plays Princess Amara—wants nothing more than to leave the intense scrutiny of the fandom behind. If this year's ExcelsiCon isn't her last, she'll consider her career derailed.

The Princess And The Frog Cast

When a case of mistaken identity throws look-a-likes Imogen and Jess together, they quickly become enemies. But when the script for the Starfield sequel leaks, and all signs point to Jess, she and Imogen must trade places to find the person responsible. That's easier said than done when the girls step into each other's shoes and discover new romantic possibilities, as well as the other side of intense fandom. As these "princesses" race to find the script-leaker, they must rescue themselves from their own expectations, and redefine what it means to live happily ever after.

This was all sorts of geeky fluffy cuteness...which is just what I was hoping for! I loved Geekerella and this one fits in as a companion novel: same world and reoccurring characters, but different protagonists from Geekerella. You probably could read it as a solo? But there'd be a lot of confusing references. Also *raises hand* I was still, um,,,,confused I confess because I read Geekerella so long ago (and don't own it to reread sob). And I know you shouldn't compare books to their older siste This was all sorts of geeky fluffy cuteness...which is just what I was hoping for! I loved Geekerella and this one fits in as a companion novel: same world and reoccurring characters, but different protagonists from Geekerella. You probably could read it as a solo? But there'd be a lot of confusing references. Also *raises hand* I was still, um,,,,confused I confess because I read Geekerella so long ago (and don't own it to reread sob). And I know you shouldn't compare books to their older sisters but...yeT. I didn't connect to this one as much as I'd hoped.

âž, It's set at a con!

So the nERD IS STRONG WITH THIS ONE. Like literally, the love (and wariness) of nerd culture is just everywhere here. The slang is so Gen Z it's just amazing lmao, and they quote movies and are in fandoms and the term "he's a burnt Hufflepuff" is in here so like what more can I say. This book LOVES fandoms. But....it still pays attention to the toxic side. Which, like holy heck, it gets worse every year. Since our two protagonists (Jess the movie star and Imogen the fangirl) are on opposite sides of whether they love/hate this life -- we get to see BOTH sides. Also at one stage the book says "it's impossible to have a nuanced conversation on twitter" and like...LMAO SOMEONE SAID IT.

âž, yesss to the genderbent Prince and Pauper vibe!

Imogen and Jess swap places and it is FUN. I'm always dubious about this trope being pulled off, but then my sister showed me pictures of her (unrelated) housemates and I was like: "that is the same person twice." Generic faces, mate, it happens. Â_(ãf,,)/Â- Anyway, I very much enjoyed reading the girls! Imogen is all squishy and heartfelt and brash. Jess is very closed off and guarded and snipey but so so desperate to be soft but scared to be?! (Ya I have a favourite haha.)

âž, And there is romance of course!

There's an f/f romance, but it's not between the two protagonists...and it's very small and slow because like the book takes place over 4 days so ya. I did think both romances were cute! Although they didn't have enough time for me to get very invested.

The Princess and the Fangirl

âž, Ok so quick confession...

I didn't connect to the book like I'd hoped so it was fun but the stakes weren't so high and I am not super into any fandoms myself rn. And people who absolutely pledge their entire lives/thoughts to stanning fictional characters...like I don't get it. lmao. I also found the girls' voices so so similar, and both in 1st, so it was a bit hard to remember whose chapter I was in.

So this is definitely for the passionate fangirls and nerds out there! It's fun and squishy and there are lots of adorkable moments too! ...more

The Princess And The Pauper

This was... fine? Nothing to really complain about, but I definitely think that I have outgrown fandom books :c womp

I received an ARC of this book for free from the publisher (Quirk Books) in exchange for an honest review.

Omg this book was incredible and I have nothing but good things to say about it. I read Geekerella about 2 years ago and loved it, but I don't remember having this level of response to it. I'm obsessed.

So first off, I loved the writing style. Sometimes when you read books about fandoms it can come across like a fan fiction. This book read like a nice YA contemporary with fandom references. I received an ARC of this book for free from the publisher (Quirk Books) in exchange for an honest review.

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I also loved that this book tackled the darker side of fandoms. A big focus was on how harsh fans (particularly in the sci-fi community) can be on actors. This is something that happens all the time and I'm glad the book gave the perspective of the actor on the receiving end of it. I also liked that this darkness was balanced by the positives of fandoms. It showed both sides well.

As for the plot, I liked that it took place entirely at the con. I thought the romances were adorable and I loved the representation (LGBT and POC).

The fandom references were so on point. My favorite was the Blue Eyes White Dragon reference to Yu-Gi-Oh on page 251 (I was super obsessed with Yu-Gi-Oh as a kid).

Lastly, if you miss Darien, Elle, and Sage from Geekerella, don't worry. They all make an appearance in the book and I was so happy to see them again.

Overall, this was an amazing companion novel to Geekerella. If you loved that book, you'll love this one! ...more

The Princess And The Goblin

I was a huge fan of Geekerella when it came out so I was highly anticipating this book but sadly I didn't love it as much as the first book.

I think The Princess and the fangirl had the same heart as it had in Geekerella so I adored that but I wasn't in love with our two main characters.

The book takes places over a weekend during the ExcelsiCon and Starfield actress Jessica Stone meets Imogen and a Parent Trap/Freaky Friday event takes place. I just felt like the 2 stories were a little disjoin

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The book takes places over a weekend during the ExcelsiCon and Starfield actress Jessica Stone meets Imogen and a Parent Trap/Freaky Friday event takes place. I just felt like the 2 stories were a little disjointed and I needed more than just the weekend.

I enjoyed the 2 romances but wasn't in love with them. They were both very instalove which is fine by me but there wasn't enough time to have a spark or a deep connection in either of the relationships.

Overall I enjoyed the book and would recommend if you've read Geekerella and also if your a fandom lover at heart.

This series is made for fans of fandoms. For people who love a fandom with everything they have and pour their heart and soul into it which I love about this series. It's made me fall in love with Starfield and I will be continuing on with the series even if this one was a little lackluster.

As always,

LOOK TO THE STARS

AIM

IGNITE

...more

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Sometimes books just shoot cupid's arrow right into your heart and you have so much love for it, that it's hard to explain why.

I'm gonna tell you all of the things that I enjoyed and loved about The Princess and the Fangirl, but there's no way to actually explain to you how it made me feel. This book filled a void in my soul that I didn't know existed and I'm so grateful for this book and the whole universe around ExcelsiCon that Ashley Poston has created.

â€œI am a kaleidoscope o â™™ | Video Review â™™ |

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“I am a kaleidoscope of hope and dreams and wonder in the shape of a girl. I am not a porcelain doll. I am not empty. I am worthy. I am enough.”

Before we really get into this review, let me talk about the representation. One of the main characters, Jess, has a f/f romance and her love interest is black. Both characters never mention any labels or specifics about attraction (or maybe I was crying while they mentioned it) and I'm digging it. We need on-page representation but we don't always need specifics.

The love interest of the other main character, Imogen, is Japanese-American (although I don't know how I feel about the fact that Imogen said he looked like a J-Pop star). Imogen has two moms and her brother is in a relationship with another guy.

I really enjoyed Poston's Geekerella on a lot of levels but what really got me about the novel were the fandom elements and how much of her own love for fandoms Poston put into it.

And The Princess and the Fangirl did it AGAIN.. maybe even better. There were so many beautiful, fandom related moments in here. Reading this as someone who has made herself a home online and in many fandoms, this book felt a little like coming home too. Poston just GETS IT! And she writes about how it feels to be part of fandom culture like no other.

“We need those stories, too. Stories that tell us that we can be bold and brash and make mistakes and still come out better on the other side.”

And ooh, my heart with all of the Geekerella references. You COULD definitely read this without having read Geekerella but I would really advise against it. First of all “if you enjoy Geekerella, you'll probably enjoy this one and vice versa. But this book is really loaded with references to its events and characters, so not only do I imagine it's probably a bit confusing in parts but you'll just have a much greater reading experience if you can recognize all those references.

AND there's some spoilers for Geekerella and I'd find it really sad if you couldn't discover those events and character developments for yourself. So, please read Geekerella first! It's worth it! It also makes the reading experience much more emotional.

This is also important for the understanding of the fictional sci-fi show, Starfield! If you've read Geekerella you have a certain knowledge of this show, which is really important for understanding the impact that a lot of the events in this novel have.

And if, like me, you also fell head over heels in love with this fictional show, it truly feels so wonderful to be back at ExcelsiCon, to read about Starfield again, to experience the fandom. I'm not even gonna lie “I'm a Starfield fan and this book only strengthened my love for it. One day I want this show to actually happen. I can quote so many things from the show. I literally want a shirt that says "Look to the stars! Aim! Ignite!" And there was one really beautiful scene at the end of the book where this phrase gets used and I could literally feel myself experiencing this moment with everyone else and I just

BAWLED!

“As our friends in the Federation always say “Look to the stars!” “Aim!” echoes everyone on the showroom floor and I join in for the final word: “Ignite!” Cheers rise up across the showroom floor, and I close my eyes and relish it, because there's nothing quite like the possibility of another ExcelsiCon.”

One aspect that I also really loved was the two perspectives that we got. Apart from the fact that I truly loved both main characters with all their flaws and everything, it was just so fun to see the perspective of an actress at a con (and especially someone who is not involved in fandom at all) and of a frequent con-goer who even shared a booth with someone and then see those roles reversed. Both characters learned a lot from this experience and I just think that it worked incredibly well in this context.

This also had so much commentary on social media, misogyny in especially Science Fiction and Fantasy fandoms, harassment at cons.. you name it. Sometimes those moments felt a little clumsy but god, I'd rather have them in there clumsily than ignore the fact that this is A CONSTANT THING that happens. I like that we see an actress as part of a big Science Fiction franchise (especially a rebooted one) and how much harassment she experiences through social media. It referenced both Daisy Ridley's and Kelly Marie Tran's situations and it was clearly a very timely commentary on that. It was really great to see this talked about in a novel cause I had never read about it, especially from this side of things, and I thought that Poston did such a good thing to also explain how it's hard to escape those comments and how it's scary.. but also sometimes even scarier to not read about yourself. I just thought that this was overall handled incredibly well. And I loved that the main character pointed out her own white privilege and that she acknowledges that she receives less hate than many women of colour in similar situations.

Through those perspectives, especially of the actress, Jess, experiencing the "fan"-side of things, this book explores the theme of the art-house movies vs the popular, entertainment movies and how there is value to both and an audience for both and how the entertainment media shouldn't be belittled, especially by people working inside of it.

I loved this aspect because that is exactly what I feel about this book! This was no Great Gatsby. This book has many flaws. There's some overly dramatic scenes in here, it has a very quickly developing romantic storyline (I'll get into this in the next paragraph) and I know this is gonna be too filled with pop-culture references for a lot of people. And I get all that. This is no Literary Fiction. But this pulled at my heartstrings and it was exactly the fluffy and emotional read that I needed. And it made a huge impact on me, an impact that a Great Gatsby would never achieve.

“What I am built for is to fall in love slowly, page by page, like reading a favorite book. I am built for the nearness of someone, the quirk of their lips, the sincerity of their smile, the dreams just underneath their skin. I fall in love moment by moment, collecting who they are, who they were, who they want to be, into a kaleidoscope of colors.”

When it comes to the romantic storyline, you have to go into this knowing what you're gonna get. If you cannot handle a romantic storyline that takes place over a couple of days, this is not the book for you. I do not mind short real-life time spans, especially not if it's at a con because.. let's be real, cons are magical places and feelings are very heightened. But you might have to suspend your disbelief. Let's

The Princess and the Fangirl

keep in mind that this is a fairytale retelling.

If you take out that element, or, like me, just don't care, I loved both romantic storylines SO GOD DAMN MUCH. Now, I gotta say, with the whole Princess and the Pauper situation, the f/f romance was one that some people will probably not love? Cause it's basically build up on a lie and I definitely wish Poston had done something different but at the same time, I can't deny that.. I kinda didn't mind? Like I'm putting this info here cause I know it's gonna bother other people but for me, I still think it worked well and Poston just managed to sell this romance to me regardless, which is SKILLS in and of itself.

The m/f romance was a dislike-to-love (there wasn't enough time for hate) and it was SOME GOOD STUFF! I could tell IMMEDIATELY this was gonna be it and I looove that, I loved the dynamic and development.

â€œI think there are people who come into your life, and you just know. For however long or short a time or however impossible it might seem â€” they're important. Like a guiding star amid a storm.â€•

In conclusion, I can only say I loved this book and could probably write five more paragraphs about it. Really, through writing this review I only just realized all the small nuances that added up to this being an absolutely fantastic read for me. It was so enjoyable and emotional and I will cherish this book forever. Look to the stars! Aim! Ignite!

â™! Booktube Channel â™! Twitter â™! Instagram â™!

I received an ARC of this through Netgalley in exchange for an honest review! ...more

The Princess And The Pilot

Oh my gosh, a companion to Geekerella about TWO GIRLS! My heart is so happy! I can't wait for this!

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10/10 for the sapphic romance, it was adorable. Otherwise the plot was kinda dull and Imogen was insufferable more times than not.

The Princess and the Fangirl

The Princess And The Pea Story

OH MY GOD

SOMEONE HELP ME

Iâ€™M DROWNING

I NEED THIS CUTENESS OVERLOAD RN PLZ AND TY

This was so good! I don't read as much YA as I used to a few years ago but I still really love books about fandoms and cons. I hope we get more in this series.

The Princess And The Fangirl

I thought Geekerella was one of the cutest books after I read it, plus, I loved all the fandom stuff! The Princess and the Fangirl did not disappoint in that aspect! There was some pretty awesome fandom stuff mentioned!

I was also excited to see two girl perspectives! However, I feel like the romantic stuff, while cute, was extremely insta love. It's fine for insta attraction or whatever, but neither Jessica's or Imogen's relationship was developed enough, since the girls had other things they were doing in the book while the romantic interest was missing. So I don't know!

Besides the romance stuff, the rest was pretty awesome! There was a lot of witty dialogue, diversity, wonderful writing, and a neat setting! Ashley Poston is becoming an insta buy for me because I've liked every book I've read by her thus far! ...more

Okay, I definitely liked this more than GEEKERELLA. I'll admit things didn't go exactly as I thought they would based on what little I knew of the plot (which, as always, wasn't much because #TeamNoBlurbs) but I knew THE PRINCESS AND THE FANGIRL was set in the same fandom world as the first and would feature a f/f pairing. It just wasn't the pairing I thought and that is more than okay.

"I'm [...] sick and tired of princesses being either damsels in distress or the foil for a male character's emotional growth."

I'm really enjoying Poston's contemporary fandom retellings, this one obviously being a THE PRINCESS AND THE PAUPER reimagining, and I hope there's more to come! This follow up felt even more chockfull of references and memes and fandom and sci-fi and all sorts of geekery. If that's your thing, you'll love this.

The internet makes it easy for us to forget that there are people on the other side of those characters,

The internet makes it easy for us to forget that there are people on the other side of those characters,

The Princess and the Fangirl

and whether you like us or not, we're people too. So your hot take shouldn't dehumanize me, or tell me that I'm wrong, or that I'm worthless, or a slut who slept on some casting couch for the role.

In addition to all the fun-times, there's also some great commentary regarding internet behaviours, online and fandom culture, including the toxic sides, and just how devastating it can be to be targeted by trolls. But, on a lighter note, there's a little bit of that fairy-tale magic impossibility in the air and a mystery to solve; complete with a Scooby Doo-like adventure squad team up, featuring some familiar faces from the first Once Upon a Con instalment and plenty of new ones, too. In fact I might have liked the new characters even more..

This is a bad idea. I can think of ten ways to Sunday why this would never work in real life. Only in K-dramas. Only in anime. Only in YA novels. This sort of thing doesn't happen in real life, and it most certainly doesn't happen to me. And yet..

If you liked GEEKERELLA or if, like me, you wished you had liked that one more, I think you'll be very happy with THE PRINCESS AND THE FANGIRL.

** I received an ARC from NetGalley and the publisher (thank you!) in exchange for an honest review. **
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The Princess And The Frog Songs

Y'all, this is SO CUTE. Jess and Imogen are two of the greatest characters. They're so flawed and have to grow so much and the romances are the CUTEST THINGS and this is just. A really stellar follow up to GEEKERELLA with lots of nods to the first book.

I WON *THIS* GR GIVEAWAY?!! AHHHHH Iâ€™M IN SHOCK! Itâ€™s official, my new year has peaked and itâ€™s only a few hours old. Iâ€™m gonna go die now... omgomgomg DONâ€™T FREAK OUT

The Princess And The Dragon

I was borderline obsessed with Geekerella and was 100000% in on this companion book, sadly it wasn't quite the same.

I liked Imogen a lot. She's passionate and supportive and I would love to go to a con with her. Her brother Milo was adorable and of course seeing Elle and Darien was fantastic. I wasn't sold on Jessica. At the start she's bratty {yes, it completely makes sense why} and I struggled to settle into the chapters with her POV.

Plot wise it's sloooooooooooooow. I was about 45% in and seriously considering a DNF, but I powered through. Thankfully when the action started it really got going and I was sucked into this world.

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Ashley has such a fantastic way of writing about fandom and cons and fans in general. I loved that the story touched on the negative side of fandom, sexual harassment, social media, and how fans think they're entitled to everything in a celebrity's life.

Overall, it was fun being back with these characters new and old. I would have liked it to move a bit faster, but I love how it ended.

****Huge thanks to Quirk Books for providing the arc free of charge**** ...more