

The background of the entire page is a gradient from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. Overlaid on this is a complex network diagram consisting of numerous white circular nodes of varying sizes, connected by thin white lines. Some nodes are larger and more prominent, while others are smaller and less visible. The lines form a web-like structure that fills the space, with some areas being more densely connected than others. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital.

American Royals

Written by Katharine McGee

Published by sanmarco-sf

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American Royals

By Katharine McGee

American Royals Sequel

What if America had a royal family?

American Royals By Katharine McGee

When America won the Revolutionary War, its people offered General George Washington a crown. Two and a half centuries later, the House of Washington still sits on the throne.

American Royals Amazon

As Princess Beatrice gets closer to becoming America's first queen regnant, the duty she has embraced her entire life suddenly feels stifling. Nobody cares about the spare except when she's breaking the rules, so Princess Samantha doesn't care much about anything, either . . . except the one boy who is distinctly off-limits to her. And then there's Samantha's twin, Prince Jefferson. If he'd been born a generation earlier, he would have stood first in line for the throne, but the new laws of succession make him third. Most of America adores their devastatingly handsome prince . . . but two very different girls are vying to capture his heart.

EDIT: This is now the most liked review for this book on Goodreads and... I don't really know how I feel.

There's still a part of me that has doubts when it comes to reviewing (or in this case, complaining about) books I've never read. But this review has been up for 3 and a half months now and so far, nobody who has read it or was involved in the production of this book has commented or messaged me to let me know I'm wrong. So this book is probably gonna be as shitty, insensitive, and history-erasing as I think it's going to be.

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"-"

Am I the only one who thinks there's something deeply fucked up about a monarchy in a country that was colonized and stolen from its native people?

One of the reasons why European countries, some Asian countries, and some African countries still have monarchs is because those countries were never successfully colonized. They gave George Washington a fucking crown? The point of the Revolutionary War was so that there was no monarchy. How are you going to have a King and Queen of America in the 21st century while knowing that land was stolen from Native Americans? What the actual fuck?

'And their country was born of rebellion'. YOUR COUNTRY WAS BORN OF GENOCIDE AND SLAVERY. Just because Alternate History is a genre doesn't give you a pass to write what seems to be racist, revisionist bullshit.

American Royals

Anyways people on this cursed website AND publishers who buy shitty ass books with racist premises all share one single brain cell. ...more

American Royals Book Review

it was the second option.

review to come / 1.5 stars

this book seems RIDICULOUS.

which is why i'm either going to enjoy every second of it or hate it with my life.

American Royals is a fun and frothy novel as one would expect from the blurb. It reimagines history so that George Washington became the first king of America...the background detail of expanding upon this alternative history is a little lacking though. I would have liked a few more nuggets of info about the how and the why America came to be ruled by a monarchy.

The story is told from a number of different viewpoints which was enjoyable but it also meant that it was quite hard to ever truly eng American Royals is a fun and frothy novel as one would expect from the blurb. It reimagines history so that George Washington became the first king of America...the background detail of expanding upon this alternative history is a little lacking though. I would have liked a few more nuggets of info about the how and the why America came to be ruled by a monarchy.

The story is told from a number of different viewpoints which was enjoyable but it also meant that it was quite hard to ever truly engage with one particular character and their storyline as the book kept flip-flopping from PoV to PoV too frequently for my personal taste.

I probably enjoyed Beatrice's story the most as it was interesting to see how her life was dictated by her (mis)fortune of birth as she is heir to the throne and is due to be the first ever ruling queen.

Samantha's story frustrated me the most. I felt she was quite a cliched character with the stereotypical chip on her shoulder at being the forgotten Royal sibling.

Nina's story was quite engaging as it was interesting to have the "commoner's" take on the royals. And I did enjoy Daphne's story as the villain of the piece as she was just fabulously over the top with her schemes and vendettas.

What was disappointing however, is how every story is dictated by paint-by-numbers romantic plot lines. It's easy to see where ultimately this story will finish up with every character happily paired off no matter how illogical their romantic plot line is/will be. I'm also not a fan of the ending. Because this book felt like quite a long read and ultimately the story went no where except to a cliffhanger-style ending and therefore is reliant on its sequel to finish out the tale.

Overall this was a fun read but I do wish this was a standalone rather than a first in a series.

American Royals

3.5 stars

An e-copy of this book was kindly provided to me by the publisher, Penguin Random House UK Children's, via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

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American Royals

being allowed the freedom of choice in the land of the free. But what's a princess to do when the whole world is watching?

Samantha Washington is one part of two—her twin brother, Jefferson Washington, is America's heartthrob—and Sam's the mess up. Known as the spare, Sam realizes that the only way to carve her mark into history is to be the loudest, the worst, the most—anything and everything that Beatrice isn't. What's a spare to do when all she wants is to make an impact?

Nina Gonzalez is Sam's best friend and the daughter of the royal court's Chamberlain. She's grown up in the halls of the palace all her life, and Sam and Jeff are her closest friends. It's not her intention to fall in love with the prince, but when one night crosses the line, will she take the plunge and risk the wrath of the American people to be with her knight in shining armor?

Daphne Deighton was born to be a princess. Scraping her way to the top with a smile on her face and steel in her eyes, she was Jeff's perfect porcelain girlfriend until it all came crashing down and Nina stole his heart. What's a girl to do but take things into her own hands?

Following the POVs of these four women entangled in the palace, *American Royals* was something else. I couldn't get enough of the clever world-building, the hate-to-love-it clichéd drama, and the scheming. Nina's window as a Hispanic woman attempting to following her own path was my favorite part of this story, seconded by Beatrice's stoic exterior/mad mess interior dynamic.

This series is going to make a splash, and I can't WAIT for the next book.

Thank you very much to Penguin Random House for an ARC of this title in exchange for an honest review. ...more

American Royals Novel

AMERICAN ROYALS was a concept I was excited about because, for all the royalty romances out there, we've never had one that reimagined, and rewrote, American history to fashion them with royalty (or at least I've never seen/read one!). Beyond that, however, I didn't really know what to expect. My guess was drama, politics, and many things in between.

It's definitely drama. Politics, not so much. This is all drama. It's like Gossip Girl on steroids in some ways, I think. Maybe. I only watched like AMERICAN ROYALS was a concept I was excited about because, for all the royalty romances out there, we've never had one that reimagined, and rewrote, American history to fashion them with royalty (or at least I've never seen/read one!). Beyond that, however, I didn't really know what to expect. My guess was drama, politics, and many things in between.

It's definitely drama. Politics, not so much. This is all drama. It's like Gossip Girl on steroids in some ways, I think. Maybe. I only watched like two seasons of that and it was a long time ago and okay maybe I should move away from this comparison.

Princess Beatrice is the eldest, the heir, set to become the country's first Queen. The laws have changed and the monarchy is looking to be more progressive in regards to inheritance with women not being passed over for just having the bad luck to be born first but female. Yay! But only in that one way. Welp. Commoners are still not eligible for marriage and lo and behold isn't that who Beatrice finds herself falling in love with? All despite trying to still adhere to the law, to tradition, and find herself an actual suitable match her parents, and the country, will approve of.

Then there's her siblings, twins Samantha and Jefferson. They have a commoner friend, Nina, with whom they grew up with. Who is trying to keep the royal and regular sides of her life separate. To distance herself from the twins after an event that happened the night they graduated high school.

Sam, who is everything Beatrice isn't, who is directionless, troublesome, and Jeff who is beloved by all. And who dumped his longterm girlfriend, Daphne, even though she has no intention of staying dumped.

This book is a lot. I thought I was actually enjoying it at first, despite some of the nastier drama, but honestly I think I kept expecting something of this book that it wasn't. And that's on me. I was feeling leftover heartwarming RED, WHITE & ROYAL BLUE feelings and I thought this was going to be more rom-com, maybe, or just.. fuzzier. But it's not.

AMERICAN ROYALS is definitely more in line with a soap opera, or reality shows (no shade! but I hate them), while still being clever enough to be riddled with the strangeness of the reimagined history, historical figures, and different way of life. As weird as it was, I sorta liked it, but it might be weirder for

American Royals

actual Americans who actually care, or are patriotic, about it all. I think this book will be a love or a hate; you'll love the drama or you won't, you'll love the alternate universe feel or you won't. And while I definitely didn't hate it, I just didn't love it.

I couldn't find myself feeling much for any of the characters or their various plights or plots; I never lost myself in this story or world, I was always keenly aware I was just reading about them. The only one who got much of a reaction out of me was Daphne. At first I just hated her, felt icky about her, but more and more I had to kind of admire her. Not for good reasons. But hey, at least she inspired a reaction.

I might read on, as it's definitely not a standalone, but I'm not sure I'll be clamouring for the sequel with the kind of curiosity I had about its predecessor. Mostly I'm just hoping it's not a trilogy and everything wraps up in two books. Guess we'll find out.

** I received an ARC from the publisher (thank you!) in exchange for an honest review. **

This review can also be found at [A Take From Two Cities](#). ...more

I was sent a copy of the book by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

This was such a quick and entertaining read. I really enjoyed *American Royals* and can't wait to read the sequel next year!

[instagram](#) || [my blog](#) || [twitter](#)

American Royals V6

YES MORE DRAMA

MORE BEAUTIFUL COVERS

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

I enjoyed McGee's previous series of novels, *The Thousandth Floor*, and was intrigued to see her take on the alternative history genre with an America ruled by the descendants of King George Washington. Unfortunately, I was disappointed. This has a lot of froth but no substance, and although *The Thousandth Floor* has interesting characters and an overall plot arc, this just doesn't really have anything, with a plot that feels con I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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The story is divided into several POV, ranging from Princesses Beatrice and Samantha, both struggling with their responsibilities and falling in love with the wrong people, Daphne the ex girlfriend of Prince Jeff and Nina the childhood ~commoner~ friend of Princess Samantha who's having a secret affair. I didn't find any of the stories particularly interesting, or different from anything that's gone before them and the voices lack any distinct qualities. At times it was a struggle to remember who's chapter I was reading as the tones are all very one note and nondescript. They were all too similar to each other, and none of them is developed enough to carry a proper narrative arc on their own.

The character's individual stories never really intertwine, and their conclusion is incredibly obvious from the start. Even though nothing actually is concluded here, as over the course of the novel nothing at all is resolved, clearly hinting at further novels, which I found incredibly annoying. I also found the whole concept of an American royal house a little bit too absurd. Yes, you can suspend your disbelief for most aspects of the plot and just go with it, but I found that in reality I just wasn't invested in the concept. The world building itself is none existent, and the reader is never really told how this world has been shaped by Washington's apparent decision to take a crown. I know very little about American ~history~, and found that without any background here to support the story, I didn't want to know it either.

As a positive, I will say that the writing is good and flows well, making it easy to read. McGee has the real potential to turn out an excellent novel, if given the right story. I just wish the subject matter was a little

American Royals

more exciting. Disappointing. ...more

American Royals Epub

2.5 stars, rounded up

What if America hadn't gone the radical route of elected government officials and democracy, and instead had offered George Washington a crown and he had inexplicably taken it?

This is the intriguing alternate history of a world that could have been, with the royal siblings—Crown Princess Beatrice, twins Samantha and Jefferson—and their friend Nina, navigating the world of love, romance, expectations and social media.

It's very gossipy and filled with the glitz, glamor, gossip 2.5 stars, rounded up

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It's very gossipy and filled with the glitz, glamor, gossip and grit of the royalty and celebrity worlds, with everything we obsess about in celebrities transformed into the aristocracy.

While I did enjoy the storyline and the characters—I really, really enjoyed the characters, although Beatrice got on my nerves for transforming from dutiful future monarch into a love-struck brat—I wished that the world had been better developed.

Seriously, do not go into this for the world-building.

It's alternate history, but in a world that is still based on the history that had gone before.

And because of that, I had some serious problems with this alternate history.

In this world, the major monarchies still rule—the Hanovers, the Bourbons, the Romanovs, etc—and apparently the world wars never happened thanks to a world-wide peace pact signed in 1895. This take on history—that the democratic and communist revolutions would never have happened without the American Revolution—is fascinating, flawed and very, very scary.

Okay, so this is essentially Gossip Girl with royalty.

Hear me out.

This book absolutely ignores the consequences and rippling aftereffects of colonialism and imperialism, and places a blind eye towards the power of representative government. Basically "monarchy good, rule of the people bad. It ignores all of the horrific things done by monarchs with the blithe observation that a benevolent monarchy is good because well, those people are good and meant to rule.

Also, the thing that really, really bothered me throughout this entire book was the absolute lack of slavery or American Indians.

Apparently, America exists and is divided into duchies instead of states, with a reach that seems to go all the way to the west coast (with a slight nod to Spanish and French colonization in the naming), but there's not really much history covered than that?

The fact that George Washington was a slave owner was not mentioned a single time.

Slavery was not mentioned a single time.

The colonization of America and the erasure of American Indians was not mentioned.

There was not a single Black character in this entire book (that I noticed, I could be wrong).

There were only two prominent characters of color in the book, and one was in a coma the entire time. The other "Nina" was a diversity checklist of a Hispanic (not Latinx) girl with burnished sienna skin who had queer moms. While I'm glad for the representation, it was tokenization.

Anywho.

I'm probably reading too much into this, but I was hoping for more.

I did enjoy the storyline and was entertained "mostly because I'm trash for all things royal and I have no shame about it" even if the alternate history aspect was deeply troubling and not well thought out.

I received this ARC from NetGalley for an honest review.

Edit: Apparently the published version mentions George Washington's descendants abolishing slavery and also that some of the Dukes are American Indians. I'm still discomfited by other aspects of the book (also, making some dukes American Indian doesn't exactly...change...the colonization/genocide aspect? Samesies with slavery and systematic racism? I'd have to read the published version but I just don't care). ...more

Thank you so much to Penguin Random House for sending me a copy of this book. All opinions are my own. You can see the content of the very cute promotional box of swags I was sent here

4/5 ⭐

"Writers got to pick the ending of their novels, but Beatrice wasn't living a story. She was living history, and history went on forever."

Have you ever wondered what society would be like if George Washington had accepted to become king after the Revolutionary War instead of president? Then search no more, friends, because this book may have the answer! American Royals follows the life of the modern royal family of America. The Washingtons have been ruling America for over two and a half centuries and power is about to be turned upside down. The heir to the throne is, for the first time, a Queen and she will need to find her King Consort after a new law that was passed a few years prior to when the story takes place.

4/5 ⭐

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This book was deliciously dramatic. I had a lot of fun reading this book and following the Washingtons through their daily lives but also their struggles with what is right for their country. the gossip was incredible and I loved this aspect, it added a lot of tension and even more plot-twists and turns. I have to admit that I predicted most of what was going to happen, but I was still pleasantly surprised and truly enjoyed reading this book. It was on my list of most anticipated releases for this Fall and it did not disappoint! I really liked the idea of this "Alternative Universe" where presidency is a nonexistent concept from what I understood. There was one quote I truly liked and honestly, tea was spilled:

"Everyone knew that elections only worked for judges and Congress. Making the executive branch pander to the people, go out begging for votes-that could only end in disaster. That structure would attract the wrong sort of people: power-hungry people with twisted agendas."

I let out a distinct "oohhhh" when I read this quote. I love the way the author calls people out with this quote. I don't want to get into political talks but yeah, I felt that quote.

The Characters

The Washingtons: Beatrice is the heir to the throne and all her life has been spent following rules and etiquette until she decides she wants more. I really liked her character and the way she wanted things to change around her. I felt really bad for her but I can't wait to see what the next book has in store for her! Samantha, her little sister was also another character I really liked. All her life she has been made to believe she was only the spare in case anything happened to Beatrice and I honestly think she was one of my favorite in this book. She may be a princess but she's super wild and fun. Jefferson, twin-brother to Samantha was also a great character. He is America's heartthrob, the only male sibling in the family. Out of all the characters in the book, the Washington family was definitely my favorite. I liked that they were all different and had their own opinions on things. It was really enjoyable to follow their adventures.

Nina: I, sadly, didn't like her. I thought she was selfish and I truly didn't feel like she was a good friend to Sam(antha) at all. Throughout the book, she keeps saying Sam is the one who doesn't care about her but honestly, she was even worse...

Daphne: She is just evil. This young lady is plain evil and manipulative. I think I'm loving to hate her because even when the situation is seemingly desperate for her, she still has a trick up her sleeve and manages to turn the odds upside down again. She believes she was born to be a princess and set it upon herself to marry Jefferson, until it all comes crashing down.

Ethan: He is Jefferson's best friend and honestly I have trust issues. There is something about this character that doesn't feel right and I'm concerned with what will happen in book 2.

To conclude, I would say this book was really fun and entertaining. It explores a very fun concept and I cannot wait to see where book 2 is going to take us! One year of waiting is definitely going to be long because I loved every moment I spent with the pages of this book!

PS: I'm not saying this book would make an amazing tv show, but it totally would

My Bookstagram [...more](#)

American Royals Book Series

I've never read this author's The Thousandth Floor series, especially because it has a lot of mixed reviews and I didn't feel like investing my time in it. But the alternate reality version America in this new book felt very interesting and I thought it'll be a great foray into the author's works. After really adoring RWRB (which is also like an AU version of America), I thought this book will be equally fun, but it's very unfair to even try to compare the two books. I'm actually not sure what I've never read this author's The Thousandth Floor series, especially because it has a lot of mixed reviews and I didn't feel like investing my time in it. But the alternate reality version America in this new book felt very interesting and I thought it'll be a great foray into the author's works. After really adoring RWRB (which is also like an AU version of America), I thought this book will be equally fun, but it's very unfair to even try to compare the two books. I'm actually not sure what I'm going to say below in my review coz I'm very unsure about my feelings and really playing by the ear.

Let me start off with the positives. The writing is very compelling and easy to follow, I never got bored and didn't exactly wanna put it down either - which is kind of an accomplishment because I didn't actually like the characters or the story but I still wanted to know what was going to happen. Now for what I didn't like.... I definitely wanted to know a little more about the history of this alternate America, why Washington decided to become a King and how has the monarchy shaped the country - but we don't get any of that. The main characters are the descendants of GW and current rulers, and that's all we get to know. We get a little about the various Dukes and Earls and Viscounts that make up this America, and some references to previous Royal scandals, but that's about the extent of the worldbuilding. I'm probably expecting too much from a YA romance novel, but I found it rather jarring that there's no mention of the history of slavery and how it was abolished (because there's no civil war and obviously no Lincoln in this world). Out of the four POV characters, one is a commoner who also happens to be a Latina with lesbian parents - her whole family felt like the token diverse part added to this novel. The only other POC character is a Japanese-American teenager who is in a coma throughout the novel. So you can guess why I'm a bit disappointed at how tone deaf this novel seems to be. I understand that the author wanted to write a teenage drama but that doesn't mean the book can't have depth or should necessarily only be superficial and frivolous.

There are four POVs in this novel which actually surprised me because it's not easy keeping track of so many storylines. It took me a while to remember who was who but it got easy gradually. The only character who seemed at least a bit developed and had some depth was Beatrice, the heir to the crown and first future Queen of America. She struggles with always trying to be perfect and never having the choice to make any decisions for herself because her whole life is tied to the crown and country. I could truly sympathize with her when she couldn't even fall in love with the person she wanted. Her younger sister Samantha came across as a mostly entitled privileged girl who was jealous of all the attention her sister got. Sam's twin Jeff seemed like a clueless teenager whom I got to know nothing about except that he has two girls fighting over him. Nina is the only commoner POV we get and I liked that she was a grounded character for the most part, not at all swayed by the trappings of royalty

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despite being the twins' friend since childhood. I just wish she had more to her story than just revolving around the royals. Daphne is the final POV, who is from a noble family and will do anything to marry Jeff. She is the villain of the story and the source of a lot of girl hate and meanness (which I don't like). I especially hated her parents because I'm sure they are responsible for her being that way. There is a lot of drama and romantic entanglements throughout the story, but I frankly could care less who ended up with whom.

Ultimately, this book can be summed up as American royalty version of Gossip girl - full of drama and love triangles and backstabbing mean girls. If that premise interests you, then this is a perfect book for you. It's fast paced and entertaining and pretty easy to finish in a single sitting. But if you like your YA romances to have a bit more depth and be less superficial, then I don't think this one is for you. This is also not a standalone and ends with a cliffhanger, so keep that mind when you decide to pick it up. But even that predictable ending is not enticing enough for me to continue with this series.
...more

The ARC of this book was provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

3.75/5 Stars

[Full review here](#)

I'm always down for a good royal romance and I definitely did enjoy this one here, even though there were some things that, in my opinion, could have been developed a little better. This novel is basically all about the characters' feelings which is okay but following four main storylines all about the same thing, romance and relationships, can also become a little boring. The ARC of this book was provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

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American Royals

couples are pretty much set in stone by this point. Nonetheless, I'm still pretty excited to read the next book! ...more