



# Princess Juniper of the Hourglass

*Ammi-Joan Paquette*

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**Princess Juniper of the Hourglass** Ammi-Joan Paquette

**In this royal adventure, Princess Juniper learns what it means to rule a kingdom—at least for the summer.**

For her thirteenth nameday all Princess Juniper wants is a country of her own. So when rumblings of unrest start in his kingdom, Juniper's father decides to grant his daughter's wish and sends her to a small, idyllic corner of the Hourglass Mountains until trouble blows over. Once there, Juniper discovers that ruling a small country—even just for the summer—is a bit harder than she'd expected, especially when cousin Cyril challenges her rule. Still, the most difficult part is to come. Juniper and her friends discover that her father's kingdom is at war. The only way to stay safe is to remain in the Hourglass Mountains much longer than planned. Juniper may have her own country after all . . . but what will that mean for the kingdom of Torr?

This book is perfect for fans of *Frozen* and *Brave*, who like their princess strong and smart as well as sparkly.

## **Praise for *Princess Juniper of the Hourglass*:**

"I absolutely loved *Princess Juniper of the Hourglass*! It's fantastically delightful, delicious, and satisfying. You'll want to follow Juniper to her kingdom -- or even better, start your own!"--Sarah Beth Durst, author of *Enchanted Ivy* and *Ice*

"I adored Princess Juniper! Readers will cheer as she leads and defends her hidden kingdom in this deliciously charming fantasy."--Julie Berry, author of *The Secondhand Charm* and *The Amaranth Enchantment*

"Princess Juniper proves that you can love your silk dresses and still be a hero. This is a smart, feisty kid with a thirst for experiences, and I loved watching her learn to lead. A fun and insightful coming-of-age tale."—Ellen Booraem, author of *Small Persons With Wings*

"A gently adventurous and luxuriously detailed romp."--*Kirkus Reviews*

"With elements from William Golding's *The Lord of the Flies* and Paul Fleischman's *Westlandia*, this story can be enjoyed by those who love princess stories and adventure tales....A rollicking tale that will please a wide range of readers."--*School Library Journal*

"This...dramatic and humorous novel...involves some entertaining twists and paves the way for more lighthearted intrigue ahead."--*Publishers Weekly*

"Paquette takes young readers gently by the hand into the adult world of responsibility, danger, and the unknown. The fully developed cast of characters is engaging, and readers will cheer the conclusion and happily await Juniper's further adventures."--*Booklist*

## **Ammi-Joan Paquette Awards and Reviews:**

*Ghost in the House*

A Huffington Post “Best Halloween Books of 2013,” School Library Journal “Great Books for Halloween” pick; and Canadian Children’s Book Centre “Best Books for Kids & Teens” 2014 pick

*Petey & Pru and the Hullabaloo*

Starred review, Kirkus

*The Tiptoe Guide to Tracking Fairies*

A "Best Books for Children 2009" choice by the Association of Booksellers for Children  
Featured in Scholastic: Parent & Child magazine’s “Fun Finds”

## **Princess Juniper of the Hourglass Details**

Date : Published July 21st 2015 by Philomel Books

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Author : Ammi-Joan Paquette

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# From Reader Review Princess Juniper of the Hourglass for online ebook

## Aeicha says

Princess Juniper makes a grand wish for her thirteenth nameday: her own country, made up of kids her age, to rule. When a troublesome kingdom invades their country, Juniper's father, the king, grants Juniper her wish and sends her, and a merry group of younguns, off to a quiet, lush part of the Hourglass Mountains. Princess Juniper and her subjects set out to make the newly dubbed Queen's Basin the best country there is...but they soon learn that's a lot harder than just dreaming about it. Princess Juniper's nasty cousin Cyril makes big trouble and Juniper finds herself fighting for her beloved little country. And back at home at Torr, war is on the horizon. What's a determined Princess to do?

This is the second middle-grade book I've read by Ammi-Joan Paquette, and she is quickly becoming one of my favorite MG authors! Princess Juniper of the Hourglass, with its charming characters, enchanting settings, adventurous spirit, and sparkling storytelling, is a pure delight from beginning to end! Paquette creates lush, vivid, and enthralling settings in Torr and Queen's Basin. Readers will fall in love with the grand castle in Torr and be swept away by the dazzling Queen's Basin, which, with its rooms carved into a mountain, tree hidey-holes, and beautiful landscapes, feels almost deliciously magical. This an unforgettable world that young readers will want to run away to and explore!

There are so many wonderful, wondrous, endearing characters in Princess Juniper of the Hourglass! Princess Juniper is such a fantastic heroine, who is smart, brave, adventurous, thoughtful, isn't afraid to get dirty and work hard, and has an impeccable sense of fashion. Juniper is surrounded by a merry and eclectic group of kids, from clever Erick, fierce Alta, feisty Tippy, weasely Cyril, and more. I found this group of young characters to be utterly charming, amusing, and full of surprises.

Princess Juniper and her new friends set out on an inspiring journey; a journey that is filled to the brim with fun, excitement, friendship, new discoveries, and valuable lessons to be learned.

my final thoughts: There is so much to love and admire about Princess Juniper of the Hourglass, and readers of all ages will enjoy this sparkling tale. Ammi-Joan Paquette has written a truly spectacular story and I can't wait for book two!

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## Tara says

This book has a delightful premise--a spunky young monarch, ruling her own tiny country for the first time--and equally delightful execution. Creative language, dastardly antagonists, loyal friends, and just enough mystery to keep the pages turning quickly all add up to a charming read. And there's a sequel on the way! My students and I are both eager to learn what happens next for Juniper, her band of subjects, and her nation, whose fate hangs in the balance.

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## **Srosch says**

Pretty cool tale :-)

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## **Anna Redding says**

What 13-year-old doesn't want respect, independence, and a shot at accomplishing the impossible? Lucky for Princess Juniper, her father is the king and will gift Juniper anything she wishes for her 13th nameday. Juniper knows exactly what she wants: her own far away kingdom free of grown-ups. What starts out as an ambitious summer adventure quickly turns into something deeper, even darker. Juniper must face the same dicy challenges any ruler encounters. Only she quickly discovers the stakes are far greater than she could have imagined. Welcome to **PRINCESS JUNIPER OF THE HOURGLASS**, a tale that will have you at every page, completely entranced by author Ammi-Joan Paquette's riveting world. This will speak to kids who want something of their own and the chance to fail. But **WARNING** when you read the last word on the last page... you'll be sweating it out until the next book in the series arrives in your hands.

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## **J.C. says**

This book was plain out awesome! A fantastical, fairy-tale setting in a fantasy world, this book was imagination-filled and adventure-packed in every way possible. It was full of fun characters, vivid settings, and a twisty, mysterious plotline. There was mystery without being too suspenseful, but intriguing enough that I couldn't put it down. It's been a long time since I read a book this fulfilling and amazing, and I loved every minute I spent reading. This is the kind of book I just know I'm going to end up rereading several times.

The story was written very well. While the setting is a fairy-tale land, it's not too juvenile at all—I'm fourteen and I LOVED it. The plotline is both easy enough for a younger person to understand, but also advanced enough that older readers will still appreciate it. The twists and turns added a more mature element, as they aren't silly and foolish twists but rather advanced and never-saw-it-coming; they were also satisfying.

There were also amazing themes prominent throughout this whole book, themes that are hard to describe but ones that openly portrayed good morals and other important ideas. I especially liked the way the author explored the idea of royalty, and how Juniper decides that it's not right that she shouldn't be allowed to apologize or help just because she's higher than others—and the concept, in itself, that she would be “higher” than others. Humility, justice, honor, honesty, integrity—all obvious in this beautiful novel. Written in a careful and clever way, this book suggests virtues that not only fairy tale times forgot about, but also ones that we find often forgotten in today's present world.

Overall, this book was amazing. It explored a depth that you wouldn't expect to come from such a fairy-tale like novel, and was clean and appropriate for even the youngest readers. I'd highly, highly recommend it for all ages—whether you like fantasy or not, you might want to try this, as you might be pleasantly surprised. There is so much more to this book than meets the eye! A positive, 5 stars!

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## **Anna Shiverdecker says**

A little below my reading grade ;) but really enjoyable. It's a fun story with a great lesson for kids and compelling characters.

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## **Ms. Yingling says**

Paquette, Ammi-Joan. Princess Juniper of the Hourglass

July 21st 2015 by Philomel Books

ARC from Publisher

When her thirteenth nameday comes, Princess Juniper must decide what gift she would like. She decides that having her own kingdom, where she can make her own rules, would be a good idea. Luckily, her father the king is on board with the idea, mainly because he wants to get the princess out of Torr because of an attack of Monsians. Juniper only wants to take children under the age of 13 with her, with the exception of her chief adviser, Erick, who is a year older. What she doesn't count on is being rushed out of the country with her retinue and also the odious Cyril and his friends Jessamyn and Root. The group is well provisioned, and the king sends them to a hidden valley that is well supplied with caves on the mountainside in which the group can live. Juniper splits up duties so that their settlement will start to be established, but Cyril's group doesn't want to work. Things go fairly well, but the children get tired, and there isn't enough food because someone is sabotaging the cows and chickens. When Cyril tries to win over the children by promising less work and more parties, Juniper tries to counter his proposals, but feels that there is something sinister about his approach to the community. When there is word from Torr that the country has been attacked and the citizens of the newly formed Queen's Basin must stay put, Juniper must figure out how to stand up against Cyril and keep her new subjects safe.

Strengths: Children surviving on their own is always an excellent topic, and this had a very Boxcar Children feel, right down to washing dishes on the beach and keeping things cool in a stream! Juniper has some stereotypical princess qualities, like wearing pretty gowns and needing her own maid, but she was more egalitarian and hard working than most princesses.

Weaknesses: There were a few odd touches, such as the Beauty Chamber and the overly fawning maid Tippy that weren't strictly necessary. Cyril's presence in the group seemed a bit forced, but since he was the biggest obstacle to be faced, his inclusion makes more sense.

What I really think: I would have loved this in elementary school, and possibly even middle school, when I read O.T.Nelson's *The Girl Who Owned the City* and had an elaborate daydream involving all of the adults vanishing and a group of kids from my middle school living in the school... with me as the leader, of course! As an adult, it didn't resonate quite the same way, but I can see it being popular with readers of princess or medieval fantasy books.

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## **High Plains Library District says**

Princess Juniper's 13th birthday is fast approaching and she needs to tell her father what she wants for her

birthday. After much thought, Princess Juniper has decided that she wants her own country...well, at least one for the summer. And she wants her own citizens...all age 13 or less. A lot to ask? Not for the daughter of King Regis of Torr. And King Regis agrees! So Juniper begins to gather the young subjects who will accompany her on this great summer adventure.

But is there something sinister going on? Why did her Father choose to send her and her companions so far away. Not that Juniper is complaining. She's excited! But the place they are heading is hidden away deep in the mountains and only accessible by a hidden tunnel. It's not on any maps...only her Father is aware of this place. What's going on? Is it dangerous? Are the adventurers brave enough and skilled enough to figure this out?

This book was marvelous! Anyone who loves reading stories about strong girls/princesses will love it. Filled with trouble, mystery and danger, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will be hooked by the end of the 1st chapter. This is the first book in the series and I'm ready to read the second one--Princess Juniper of the Anju!

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### **Michele Knott says**

Really fun adventure and I love how Juniper figured out who she wanted to be as leader.

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### **Deb Aronson says**

Loved Princess Juniper! Similar to Princess in Black series but maybe for a slightly younger reader. There were a couple passages that really really resonated with me. When I have more time I'll go back and find them and post them! Definitely will read the next one

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### **Mary Love says**

This book is sloooooow. My little sister says it was okay, but she must have a better attention span than I (the reader) because I was super impatient for something to happen. The pitch: "Princess Juniper acquires her own kingdom" takes 50% of the book to happen, and after that, we were skimming for something else to happen because--aside from a little squabbling--not much does. In my experience, MG should move faster, not slower, than other genres.

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### **Raaga says**

I really want to read a book like this. I love princess books

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### **Nina says**

This is not another fluffy princess book—Juniper might have the gowns, slippers, and manners of a

pampered royal, but as she (and we) quickly learn, that's not going to be enough to rule a kingdom of her own. When her title is challenged, she doesn't sit back and rely on her family power, she uses strategy, her talents, and the help of her friends to face the rebellion head-on. In fact, at times, this book had some "Lord of the Flies" moments; the kids have to set up their own civilization, and learn to work together to keep it running. As with any good group survival story, there's some dissension, and that's when Paquette's storytelling shines. I kept imagining what "I" would do if faced with the escalating challenges the author throws at Princess Juniper and I have to admit, the princess is more wily than I originally gave her credit for. I really enjoyed this book and look forward to the sequel; I have to find out who those footsteps belong to!

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### **Shivantika says**

Meh. I finished this book, and it was okay. Maybe you guys have different opinions, but this was not my kind of book. I thought it looked interesting when I got it from the library, but it was just one of those princess ruling a kingdom stories.

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### **Jaymie says**

Great story!! 4.5 stars. Really enjoyed this. Sets up the next book nicely.

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