



The Twelve Dancing Princesses

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Twelve princesses, one gardener, and a mysterious secret . . .

As the castle gardener, Aleck is paid well, has his own room above the stables, and he is able to support his mother and younger brothers and sisters. Why would he risk it all for one girl?

For weeks now, Princess Cascadia and her eleven sisters have awakened each morning to swollen feet and tattered dancing slippers without any recollection of what happened. Why would someone do this to them? The king calls all the worthy men in the land to come and help solve the riddle of the twelve dancing princesses. The man who is able to sort the mystery will be allowed to choose one of the princesses to wed.

Cascadia immediately turns to Aleck for assistance. If anyone can help her, she knows it is him, and she knows of no man she would rather marry. But will Aleck be able to unravel the mysterious happenings and save the kingdom before those behind the scheme succeed?

The Twelve Dancing Princesses Details

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Author : Jenni James

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From Reader Review The Twelve Dancing Princesses for online ebook

Isabel says

This book was slightly better than the others, but not by much. I actually sort of liked Aleck in the beginning when we learned about him and his family. Once Casey came into the picture, I started to dislike him more as the book went on. The plot line is once again rushed, the characters have almost no depth, the “villain” is defeated in just a few pages, love that isn’t really love(more like infatuation), etc....

Oh and also this charming line: “Shh. Listen to me, you headstrong woman.”

This author is in the same league for writing bad fairytale retellings with Melanie Dickerson.

Jacqueline Lam says

The pretext is rather weak. The plot unoriginal.....the only attraction is my fascination with the fairytale itself! So I have read several and this is the weakest.

Cindi says

This was a very quick read for which I am grateful...the dialogue was as if the people lived in older days but it just bugged me. I'm not planning on reading anymore in this series any time soon. Ages 8+

Jenni James says

This book has finally been released! YAY! I hope you love it. It's definitely a fun twist on the adventure of one of my favorite fairy tales ever. :)

Sophie Thompson says

Not one of the best in the series but it was ok

Leah says

I don't recall the details exactly on the original version of this story, but I love Jenni James' take on the classic tale.
very easy to read, could not put the book down.

Anna Kopp says

I love the Faerie Tale Collection, but unfortunately this book didn't quite resonate with me like the others. Not only was the romance really eye-roll worthy, the twist itself was one I've seen several times before and in a better way (like Thea's Tale). I liked some aspects of it, especially the magic, and the prose is just beautiful no matter which story it is, but I wouldn't single this one out from the others.

Melanie says

I've read several of these books and have enjoyed them all! I was excited to get The Twelve Dancing Princesses because it is one of my favorite fairy tales and I love to read re-tellings of this one in particular.

Princess Cascadia (Casey) is one of the princesses and has been making frequent trips to the garden lately to be around Aleck, one of the gardeners. During one of their conversations, she lets him in on the secret happening in her house: the princesses' shoes are all worn through every morning, as if they've been dancing all night, but none of them remember leaving their beds. The King will allow whoever solves the mystery to wed one of his daughters so Aleck promises Casey that he will try his best to solve the mystery.

We meet Aleck's family and see how they play into the story. The basics to this fairy tale are all there but there are some twists and the reason behind the dancing is original. The length is perfect for me. I was able to read it in one sitting and, since it is short, the story moves quickly. I was thoroughly entertained from beginning to end! This is a great collection to read if you enjoy fairy tale re-tellings. I'm excited for the books that are still to come and look forward to reading more!

I received a copy of this book via Singing Librarian Book Tours for an honest review. My opinion is 100% my own.

Mel's Shelves

Ritika Chhabra says

Oh, another amazing book by Jenni James. The Faerie Tale Collection has now become one of my favorites. I loved Aleck and I loved Casey and I loved the certain twist that the author played upon us. It was all so mysterious and so, so, so confusing and so unexpected.

When I picked up this book to read, I merely did this because it was a part of the series. Of course, as a kid, I had loved the Barbie version of the original story but this version was so much better than that. Hats off to James for re-creating this beautiful story that had already raised the bar so high. To write such a story of a fairytale that always gets underrated by the likes of Cinderella and Snow White and then to create such a beautiful story out of it, with such an unexpected twist was such a difficult task and an amazing one, nonetheless.

Loved it!

Nikki H says

I really liked this book i have never read a retelling of the twelve dancing princess before but as always Jenni james does not disappoint with this one and I would highly recommend it

Ann Marie says

This started out so good but as soon as he got into the castle it was like everything sped up super fast and he was a different person with his thoughts and actions. Disappointed in how the ending happened.

Amanda says

I have always liked the story of the twelve dancing princesses, so I thought it would be fun to read this one. Ugh. Ugh, ugh, ugh. How has Jenni James got all these books published?

The basic bones of the story are there, but her explanation of why the princesses are dancing is dumb, the hero is insipid, and can I just say, I have almost never read worse dialogue in a book.

Ghastly, do not recommend.

If you want to read a great retelling of this story, check out Robin McKinley's version in the book *A Door in the Hedge*.

Lenni Jones says

I wasn't feeling this book at all. It's actually kinda sad since I have been dying to read this book forever. I don't have much more to say than that it was kinda disappointing and boring.

Rrshively says

This book is perfect for many fifth and sixth grade girls. It takes a fairy tale and turns it into a chapter book. As an adult, I felt it was a little simple, especially the ending, but I would give it to any girl of that age who was interested.

Rachael says

I enjoyed this retelling of the twelve dancing princesses. I have always loved the fairy tale ever since I saw

the Barbie movie. I loved the twist she put on this story with the dancing enchantment and the romance. I'm now caught up to book 12 in the series.
