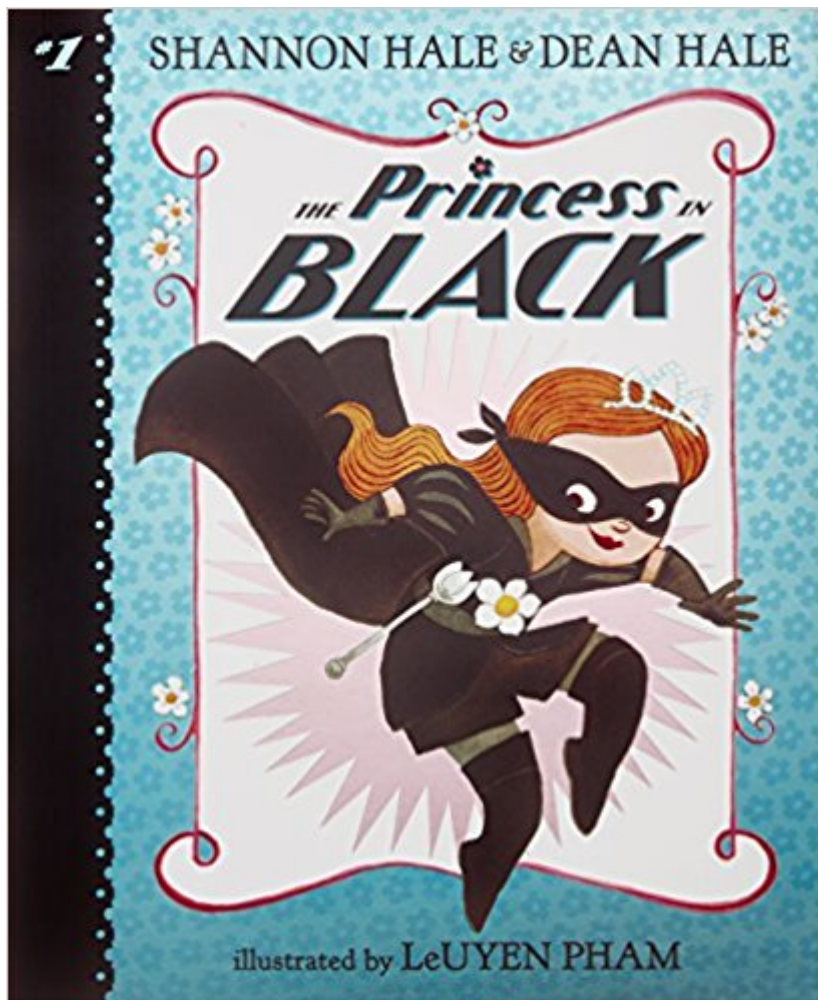


The book was found

The Princess In Black



Synopsis

Who says princesses don't wear black? When trouble raises its blue monster head, Princess Magnolia ditches her flouncy dresses and becomes the Princess in Black! Princess Magnolia is having hot chocolate and scones with Duchess Wigtower when . . . Brring! Brring! The monster alarm! A big blue monster is threatening the goats! Stopping monsters is no job for dainty Princess Magnolia. But luckily Princess Magnolia has a secret – she's also the Princess in Black, and stopping monsters is the perfect job for her! Can the princess sneak away, transform into her alter ego, and defeat the monster before the nosy duchess discovers her secret? From award-winning writing team of Shannon and Dean Hale and illustrator LeUyen Pham, here is the first in a humorous and action-packed chapter book series for young readers who like their princesses not only prim and perfect, but also dressed in black.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 500 (What's this?)

Series: Princess in Black (Book 1)

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (April 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763678880

ISBN-13: 978-0763678883

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.3 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 340 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,982 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Royalty #10 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Superheroes #30 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Chapter Books

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

K-Gr 3 • In this atypical princess story, the refined and frilly Princess Magnolia is having hot chocolate and scones with the proper Duchess Wigtower when suddenly the monster alarm sounds. As readers quickly find out, Princess Magnolia is actually the Princess in Black. She dons a black

cape and ninjalike outfit to fight the monsters that come from Monster Land. Her superhero identity is top secret; Duchess Wigtower must not find out. While the Princess in Black wages battle, Duchess Wigtower snoops around her castle, always looking for evidence of the princesses' imperfections. Meanwhile, Duff the goat boy suspects the true identity of the Princess in Black and considers helping her. The colorful illustrations on each page help move readers through the story as the heroic princess saves the day. The action-packed text in this beginner chapter book will enthrall and is ideal for independent reading or reading aloud. The ending leaves readers with just enough of a wink to hint at a future installment. Give this engaging read to fans of "Bink and Gollie" (Candlewick).
—Nancy Jo Lambert, McSpedden Elementary Frisco, TX --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

This charmingly told book has lovely old-fashioned illustrations and a great message: You can't judge a princess by the color of her gown.
—New York Times Book Review
The rounded, cartoony illustrations featuring chubby characters keep the fight sequence soft and comical. ... The gently ironic text will amuse readers (including adults reading the book aloud). The large print and illustrations expand the book to a longish-yet-manageable length, giving newly independent readers a sense of accomplishment. ... Action, clever humor, delightful illustrations and expectation-defying secret identities—when does the next one come out?
—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)
The authors of "Rapunzel's Revenge" and "Calamity Jack," writing here for a slightly younger audience, successfully turn the treacly princess genre on its ear, offering beginning readers a clever, adventurous, and self-reliant heroine who is equally at home in black or pink. Pham's watercolor-and-ink illustrations, rendered in the style of the Disney classics, effectively contrast Magnolia's identities and emphasize the text's humor. Clever details (Duff and his goats eat popcorn on the sidelines as they watch the PIB do her thing) and short manageable sentences make for a promising, and sure to be wildly popular, new series debut.
—Booklist (starred review)
The Hales translate the humor and adventure that characterize their Rapunzel's Revenge into prose form for a younger audience with aplomb and wit, giving amusing nods to both the Disney princess tradition and the superhero genre. Short sentences, a simple vocabulary with the occasional challenge, a manageable length, and a near picture-book level of illustrative density give this chapter book immense accessibility. Pham's watercolor and ink art has a goofy cartoonishness, with the Princess's doe-eyed damsel figure contrasting entertainingly with her ninja-like moves, and the monsters themselves are a parade of wacky Muppet-like creatures. Whether they prefer pink sparkles or

superhero capes, readers, especially newly independent ones, will find themselves anxiously awaiting the next installment of the PIBÉs adventure.É

•Bulletin of the Center for Children's BooksThe colorful illustrations on each page help move readers through the story as the heroic princess saves the day. The action-packed text in this beginner chapter book will enthrall and is ideal for independent reading or reading aloud. The ending leaves readers with just enough of a wink to hint at a future installment. Give this engaging read to fans of "Bink and Gollie".É

•School Library JournalThe Hales drop narrative breadcrumbs throughout the story, setting up subsequent titles in the planned series, and they build comic tension by alternating scenes of the masked princessÉs monster-fighting with ones starring Duchess Wigtower, who Princess Magnolia has left waiting back at her castle, and who has a fondness for uncovering secrets.... Pham offers little jolts of energy and wit on every page, with full-page and spot illustrations that have the vivaciousness and irreverence of contemporary animation.É

•Publishers WeeklyFinally, a book for kids where a princess saves herself. ... Kids will love meeting this new non-traditional princess who bucks the stereotype of princesses past.É

•Metro USThis charming begining chapter book will please princess and action fans alike.É

•Milwaukee Journal SentinelFor readers who love "all things princess," it provides a fabulous vision of how the definition of a role can expand.É

•Blade

We need more chapter books with lots of pictures! This was the perfect book to help my daughter transition from picture books to chapter books. Thanks Mrs. Hale!

We borrowed this from the library for my Kindergartener. She loved it so much we read it straight through, then read it again, and then that night when I went in to check on her one last time I found her holding it close in her sleep. I should also note that we are just now entering the super-hero stage in our family with my 3 year old son, so my little girl has gone from watching Disney movies over and over (Rapunzel is the favorite) to Spider-Man and Captain America. "Why are there no girl Super-Heroes?" she asked. I introduced her to Wonder Woman, White Tiger, Batgirl, Supergirl, etc., and she shrugged. She can't really connect to those super-sexy, all-grown-up, major-attitude types. I recalled reading about Shannon Hale's new book for younger readers. I liked what she'd done with Princess Academy, so I thought I would give it a go for my girl. I did not anticipate the amount of love this book would receive - she cried when she had to give it back to the library (the request list is still long here). She decorated her pumpkin for a school contest to look just like the Princess in Black. I surprised my daughter with her own copy this last week, and her eyes just lit up. The book

currently lives under her pink pillow. My girl LOVES pink, and princesses, and superheroes. This book is NOT about rejecting princesses, or even rejecting the pinkness of girls. This book is about being a hero and saving the day. This is Zorro for little girls. Princess Magnolia - pink clad perfection in her castle - The Princess in Black when danger lurks in the kingdom! Give it a chance. My three year old boy loves this book and we look forward to another, especially if it features the Goat Avenger. :-) And more monsters to fight! My two year old daughter has been running around saying the Princess in Black's signature move: Twinkle, Twinkle, SMASH! It's a book our whole family loves.

My toddler loves this book and I really enjoy reading it to her. It is a fun and exciting story, that triggers imagination and is empowering for girls. The book came up in a school moms' coffee morning and several of the moms recommended it. I'm pleased that they did because it was a great choice. This is a fairly long book so I wasn't sure I could keep my toddler's attention to complete the book. I figured we would read this over the span of a few days. However, my daughter was so excited and interested in the story that it maintained her attention to finish the entire book in one sitting. Since then, she has asked for me to read this book several times a week. I appreciate that the story's theme allows for the reader (or child you are reading it to) to see that the main character can be both a princess and a superhero! The message and the moral of the book are inspiring and I really like that. It's well written, easy to read and a nice flow. There are some nice illustrations and a brief amount of text on each page, so as you turn through the pages, it keeps the listener's attention. Will certainly purchase more from this series.

I got this for a struggling third grade reader. She loved it. We read the whole series. Then I brought it home and read it aloud to my five year old daughter who absolutely LOVED them. We read them all (again). Our public library happened to have a Princess in a Black event this summer - my five year old was too excited. We went and she was able to talk all about the books with the "bigger girls". The bright colorful illustrations do assist as context clues. There are also lots of opportunities for predicting/infering. While this series may not go down in history as great literature of our time - it got two different aged girls (5 & 9) to enjoy reading. That's a success in my eyes! We can't wait for the next book to come out in September!

Our 6 year old and we love this series! The subject matter has been good, creative, and interesting for her (and our 4 year old who sometimes wants to get in on the story... and us who sometimes are asked to reread the books). No negative tones or word selections (I don't like when books for kids start talking about "hating" things or people being "stupid or dumb."). We are really looking forward to the next book in the series!

I read this aloud to my 4 year old daughter in one afternoon and evening. She did not want to stop, and neither did I! When I had to pause to check something in the oven, she said "Don't forsake me!" He he! I think she'd heard that phrase in a story at school. She pretends to be the Princess in Black about as often as she pretends to be Wonder Woman or Elsa! I keep hearing yells of "sparkle slam!" So far we've read the first 3 books about 4 times each. I'm buying them in installments so we can spread the series out over the summer. My little girl loves that Princess Magnolia gets to be a beautiful princess and a masked ninja hero. She likes dressing up like her favorite characters, so she wants me to put together some Princess Magnolia / Princess in Black outfits for her. I think this will be our default gift for birthday parties for the next few years, including for boys!

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