



Princess of Souls by Alexandra Christo

Reviewed by Amelie



This is a standalone novel

Fantasy Retelling

Give a summary without spoilers!

Selestra Somniatis is the heir to the king's witch. Kept in the tower, far from the rest of the world, and forbidden to use her magic, Selestra yearns to escape both the castle and the unbearable pressure of the expectation that rests on her shoulders. She does not want to steal the souls of the people desperate enough to make a bargain. So when a confident Nox Laederic risks his soul in an attempt at revenge for his father, Selestra is offered the chance to step out of the shadow of her ancestors' dark magic and become more powerful than she ever thought possible.

What drew you to this book?

I had read other books by Alexandra Christo and really enjoyed them. The storyline and characters are loosely based on the Rapunzel fairy tale. The story includes an intriguing magic system and is a story about self-discovery and forgiveness. It was interesting to watch the characters develop as their goals shifted and they came to trust one another. The world building was also fascinating, with mythology and a turbulent history.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously read?

It reminds me of the other book I'd just read by this author. The two main characters were similar to the ones from the movie, and the world the story is set in was used in the author's other book, so I was familiar with it.

To whom would you recommend this book?

This is a good book for those who like fairy tales and fairy tale retellings. It is a quick read, and has some decent romance. The magic is interesting but not difficult to understand, and the plot line is enthralling. For those who enjoy a story with a heroine who learns her worth and comes into her power, this might be a good book to pick up. The heroine has the power of prophecy and has visions of her own future.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?

I liked this book and recommend it to teens or adults who like a quick read, fantasy story with a little magic and a little romance.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

The cover has beautiful artwork with a red moon and a snake eating its own tail, both of which have a connection to the plot, which I found interesting after I'd finished the book.