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Princess Lessons: A Princess Diaries Book
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Introduction

by Her Royal Highness Princess Mia Thermopolis

Ever since I found out that I am the heir to the throne of a small European principality (Genovia, population 50,000), there has been a *lot* of interest in what actually goes on during my princess lessons with my grandmother, the Dowager Princess Clarisse. I don't know why, because being a princess is actually very boring, and princess lessons with Grandmère pretty much - well - stink. I would much rather be a normal girl and be able to go to softball practice after school than have to go to princess lessons every day (not really, because I don't even like softball, what with my whole hand-eye coordination thing, but you get what I mean.)

Anyway, seeing as how everybody keeps asking me, "Oh, Mia, can you please tell us the right way to curtsy?" and all, I figured I would share what I've learned during the long, grueling hours I've put in with Grandmère, so that you, too, can practice being a princess (though I honestly don't know why you would want to. See above re: stinkage factor).

Everything you need to know about posture and manners and how to address your subjects is here, if you're interested in that kind of thing. Did you know, for instance, that you never call a duke "My Lord"? No, it is always "Your Grace."

Since I am far from being an expert at this princess thing, I had to ask some of my friends and realtives to contribute stuff. And it turns out not even Grandmère knows everything about being a princes (only please don't tell her I said so).

The one thing I can't believe is that I am not even getting school credit for this. Which is so totally unfair, but whatever. Personal sacrifice is all part of the whole princess package, as you are about to find out.