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Lions In The Garden (The Uprising)



Synopsis

Prague, 1610 Ludmila Novakova--Mila--has barely set foot outside Prague Castle in her seventeen years. But with the choice between braving the bandits and wolves of Bohemia's uneasy roads or being married off to a disgusting old baron, she's taken what she can carry and fled. Escape won't be easy. Even Mila has heard the rumors of a rebellion coming against the court. The peasants are hungry. The king hasn't been seen in months. Mila's father, the High Chancellor, is well known and well hated. But Mila can't sit behind a stone wall and let fear force her into a life of silk gowns and certain misery. Her mother's death has taught her that much. She has one ally: Marc, the son of the blacksmith. A commoner, a Protestant--and perhaps a traitor, too. But the farther she gets from the castle, the more lies she uncovers, unraveling everything she thought she knew. And the harder it is to tell friend from enemy--and wrong from right . . .

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Customer Reviews

Loved this! Chelsea Luna Delivers again! I felt like I was right there in Prague in the 1600's. Such a great Historical Romance...Marc and Mila are wonderful. The story flows, with lots of things you

don't really see coming. A wonderful read, I definitely recommend this book.. I can't wait for the next in this series..

I hope that she gets to kick butts in the next book (yes I know , those are the times of damsel in distress ughhhhh! I hate that) I liked the book and got invested on the characters I'll look forward to the next book. I loved the zombie books she wrote so I have this author on my list.

I've read other books by Chelsea and I love this one just as much as the others. I love historical romance novels and this one is great. I bought the second one and am already half way through. I suggest reading it.

This was an interesting and captivating read about a time period I had never considered before. I liked Mila and Marc and I can't wait until September when I can catch back up with the revolution.

Very good. Already pre ordered the next book.

Great book.

I received an ARC of this book from NetGalley and Kensington and Lyrical publishers. I have mixed feelings about this novel. In some ways I enjoyed it because it was set in Prague in 1610 which is during the time of the Reformation. It is not a Christian fiction book but it had some interesting insights as to what was going on during this time among both the Protestants and Catholics. It is also kind of a coming of age story for the protagonist. The protagonist of the novel, Ludmilla or Mila for short, was interesting, especially as she struggles to understand the politics within the Holy Roman Empire, as well as struggling with whether the Protestants are truly as bad as she has grown up to believe. In the beginning of the novel she meets Marc who is a Protestant and she begins to realize that maybe the Protestants aren't as bad as her father had led her to believe, and she also sees why they see the need to revolt against the Holy Roman Empire. One thing I had to keep in mind while reading this book is that when the characters refer to themselves as Protestants, they are not necessarily Christians, rather they call themselves that because they are revolting against the Holy Roman Empire and the Catholic Church's tyranny. This is not to say that all Protestants during this time weren't true Protestants, meaning that they truly believed that the doctrine the Catholic church was teaching was wrong. However, based on this novel there were

many who were just rebelling against the institution that had long oppressed them. I can't go into too much detail because then it will give away spoilers but the plot was okay. I didn't like the fact that author seemed to use some modern sayings that would not have been around during this time period, it just annoyed me. I also didn't like one scene in particular when started to get a little bit steamy, it wasn't anything too explicit, it just wasn't something I was expecting in a YA novel and I don't like scenes like that. I did enjoy the last 50 pages of the book because there seemed to be more action and I found it really gripping and I could not put it down, however the first 175 pages seemed to drag on. In some ways it was predictable, and in other ways there were things that took me by surprise, especially when the real antagonists are revealed. I may or may not read the second book in this series, I am still trying to decide because I am kind of curious to find out what happens next, but at the same time I am worried that there will be more steamy scenes. I am giving this book 2.5-3/5 Stars because there were certain things that I did really enjoy about the novel but there were also things I didn't like and I don't know if I could necessarily recommend this book to anyone I know. Thanks again to NetGalley and Kensington for providing me with an ARC of this book for an honest review.

MAY CONTAIN SPOILERS "I hated all of them. I hated what they stood for. The way they arrogantly led their lives. I hated myself because I was no better." This book was a whirlwind of so many twists and turns and tragedy. We start this story with Mila running away to avoid marrying a man that is her father's age she, an injury ends up stopping this though and Marc (blacksmith's son) comes to her rescue. While talking to him she learns not only of a potential revolution that the protestant peasants are planning if the Catholics in power keep ignoring and terrorizing them. Mila is shocked by these claims and tries to deny them. Once back at the castle Imogene realizes that maybe what he told her wasn't a lie and that certain people were abusing their powers. As she is learning all of these things she is told that she will be marrying a childhood friend Radek who she not only didn't love, but who she also didn't trust anymore. When thieves try to steal the king's jewels Mila ends up seeing them and gets kidnapped along with the jewels as well. This is when things really start getting good, and you learn a lot of things about what life was like for the protestants in Prague during that time. With the help of Marc she escapes the thieves and heads back to the castle, in the process of this though she ends up falling more in love with Marc and ends up learning terrifying things about Radek and what he is doing. When she gets back to the castle and talks to her father she thinks she has fixed everything and has cleared Marc's name. Sadly that was not to be the case

instead she sealed his fate. But when she learns this she decides to do whatever she can to try to save him and help the revolution. Her father tries to stop her and Radek tries to threaten her as well, but when she finally learns the truth about her mother's death she becomes unstoppable and starts playing the parts she is supposed to in order to keep the one she loves alive. While Mila was naive she had every right to be, she was kept in the dark and inside the castle at all times and wasn't able to leave, so there was no way she could learn about the things that were going on. I really liked her determination to help the revolution even though it meant the end of the world as she had known it. I loved this book and I can't wait till the second one is released. I hope September gets here quickly." I was walking in my mother's rebellious footsteps. I would finish what she started." Thank you to Netgalley and Kensington for a E-ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review

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