



My Lady Jane

Cynthia Hand , Brodi Ashton , Jodi Meadows

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Edward (long live the king) is the King of England. He's also dying, which is inconvenient, as he's only sixteen and he'd much rather be planning for his first kiss than considering who will inherit his crown...

Jane (reads too many books) is Edward's cousin, and far more interested in books than romance. Unfortunately for Jane, Edward has arranged to marry her off to secure the line of succession. And there's something a little odd about her intended...

Gifford (call him G) is a horse. That is, he's an *Eðian* (*eth-y-un*, for the uninitiated). Every day at dawn he becomes a noble chestnut steed—but then he wakes at dusk with a mouthful of hay. It's all very undignified.

The plot thickens as Edward, Jane, and G are drawn into a dangerous conspiracy. With the fate of the kingdom at stake, our heroes will have to engage in some conspiring of their own. But can they pull off their plan before it's off with their heads?

My Lady Jane Details

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From Reader Review My Lady Jane for online ebook

Katerina says

It was **amusing**. It was **romantic**. It was slightly based on **medieval history**. And it was a **gem**.
I'm dancing like a happy ferret!

“You may think you know the story. It goes like this: once upon a time, there was a sixteen-year old girl named Jane Grey, who was forced to marry a complete stranger (Lord Guildford or Gilford or Gifford-something-or-other), and shortly thereafter found herself ruler of a country. She was queen for nine days. Then she quite literally lost her head.”

As the authors kindly inform us, that is not the story they narrate us. The original story is flat and a little morbid (unless you're enjoying beheadings-in that case I can recommend you some great TV shows). My Lady Jane though is **refreshing**. It takes place in a divided England, only religion is not the cause of this division. There are **shapeshifters** and the ones-who-hate-shapeshifters-and-want-to-burn-them-alive-or-chop-their-heads-whatever-just-kill-them. There is a **spoiled king** who doesn't want to die before being kissed. There is a **feisty girl who loves books** better than people (no it's not me in case you're wondering) and a **boy that spends his days as a horse** and **villains** who want the throne for themselves and **outlaws** and everything you could ask for from a **historical fiction/ fantasy/ comedic** book. That's why I'm still dancing like a happy ferret.

The first thing that occurred to me as I started reading My Lady Jane was that Jane's books' titles reminded me of The Sims Medieval. The second was that since Jane's mother was Frances Brandon Grey, her grandfather was the first Duke of Suffolk, Charles Brandon. Which means that *this* was her grandfather.

That lucky bitch.

After recovering from the shock that I'm reading about Henry Cavill's descendant, I recalled everything I know about british history (knowledge acquired by watching every historical television series and searching Wikipedia for hours) and I realized I didn't mind the changes! In fact, I *preferred* the changes! **The writing trio did a marvelous job**, there was not a single moment I wanted to put the book down! **The sarcastic and hilarious narration, the conspiracies, the strong-minded female characters and the swoonworthy steed** are My Lady Jane's trademarks, and I kept **giggling** and **swooning** and thanking the book gods for this creation! Three authors yet you could not possibly tell, their writing was **flawless, fluid and utterly enjoyable**! Do not expect a thought-provoking, life-altering book, but you'll love it nonetheless!

“Through books she could see the world.”

Jane, Edward and Gifford (you can call him G, I call him my lord husband). Three different but equally fascinating (and stubborn) characters that will seize your heart from the start! Jane is undoubtedly the main one (you know, My Lady *Jane*), and you can't help but relate to her, especially when it comes to her precious books! She's the book girl, supporter of the weak, and does not tolerate male authority. Which means she constantly fights with ~~my~~ her husband G, the husband she hated (and unfairly judged) at first but later she

couldn't help but fall in love with, because he has that effect. My only problem with her was that she thought she could do everything alone (when she couldn't) and would never listen to the voice of reason when it came to her safety. Obviously it's a trait that every YA heroine shares, regardless the time setting and the circumstances.

In *My Lady Jane*, Cynthia Hand, Brodi Ashton and Jodi Meadows combine their divine writing powers (a gift from the book gods if you ask me), which result into **a story full of humor, romance, magic and adventure** that will make you smile and wish that school history books were written in the same fashion! I'm off to dance like a happy ferret!

Emily May says

"My lady," he said gallantly, "I'm willing to stop whenever you are. Perhaps you'd be better off sticking to more womanly pursuits, like embroidery or music or-"
She bashed him in the ribs.

4 1/2 stars. This was so much fun. **So much fun.** Turns out that a good laugh at my country's expense is exactly what I needed right about now.

Before you pick up this book, make sure of two things:

- 1) You know what you're about to read. This is a **silly, lighthearted historical comedy**, full of Monty Python-style jokes, puns and mockery. I also thought the story was very well-executed, but don't be expecting a high-angst drama (beyond the comical variety).
- 2) Be in the mood for it. Like I said, it's a very specific type of book and it won't suit everyone. I usually prefer tension, action and "oh shit, what's going to happen next" books. But I sat down to read this wanting something **funny, entertaining and undemanding**. That's what I got.

If you meet those two requirements, there's really nothing to dislike. This book does exactly what it promises and it does it very well. It's the kind of **laugh snort embarrassingly out loud** story that will get you some strange looks from other people. I just couldn't stop giggling to myself.

"I asked him to change back to talk to me, but he won't," Jane said. "It's disrespectful to remain a horse in the bedchamber, I should think."

This is a Tudor retelling set during the reign of the young Edward VI. In this reimagining, instead of the infamous divide between Protestants and Catholics (fostered by Henry VIII's disregard for the Catholic church), we see a war between Verities and Eðians. The latter have the power to shapeshift into various animals, and the former hate them for it.

Mocking sexist attitudes and the ridiculous social graces of the 16th Century upper classes, the story unveils the "true story" about Lady Jane Grey - the one that history has hidden from us.

She was a woman who wore pants. She couldn't be trusted.

I've already said that it's very funny, but for such a light, silly book, it is **remarkably well-plotted**. The story itself, behind the quips and hilarity, is compelling and features all kinds of **royal backstabbing, secrets and craziness**.

It is a warm, lovable, over-the-top rewriting of history and I enjoyed every minute of it. Unlike most funny books, the humour remains constant throughout, never running dry or feeling forced. I only hope this trio of authors continue to write comedy together. Because it dazzles.

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❄️Nani❄️ says

3.75??

Without a doubt, the silliest book I've ever read and I loved every joyous moment of it.

RTC

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Dedication

For everyone who knows there was enough room for Leonardo DiCaprio on that door.

And for England. We're really sorry for what we're about to do to your history.

Oh, I cannot wait for this.

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**Emily (Books with Emily Fox) says**

If you're looking for a fluffy YA historical fiction that also included fantasy... this is it! I ended up laughing out loud a few times and definitely recommend it.

The way the authors decide to retell - and let's call it what it is - pretty much completely change history, was a lot of fun!

I hope they'll come out with more!

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## emma says

I finished this book last night. So I literally slept on it, and, up to when I finished this review, continued to have no idea what to rate it. (Okay, well, not NO idea. It was between one star and two.)

<https://emmareadstoomuch.wordpress.co...>

Here's the thing. I've never had so many problems with a book while not wanting, exactly, to give it one star. Usually I love slapping one star ratings on books when I feel they deserve them. It was hard to decide whether this was that type of book.

I did something I've never done before with this book: I took review notes in the app on my phone. Why? Because I had so many things to say about it that I couldn't be tied down to only writing when my notebook was nearby.

Let's start with the characters. The main three, whose perspectives we read from: Jane, Gifford, Edward. Also significant characters: Gracie, Mary, Bess. I'll air my qualms in the order I just listed them. First, a bit of background info: this book takes the Catholic/Anglican turmoil that exists for, like, over a century of British history and *turns it into magical animal shapeshifters versus non-magical animal shapeshifters*. (Am I the only one who hates that?) I want this to be spoiler-free-ish, so I'll just say we meet a lot of these heavenly-blessed-magical-beings (called Edians with a fancy d that I refuse to Google/copy/paste).

First: Jane. Jane is naïve, stubborn, pretentious, and, often, without common sense. Her arranged-marriage-husband, Gifford (fifty percent of his personality is that he prefers the nomer G), is an Edian. One of her first interactions with him is her telling him that she knows more about Edians than he does. Cool! Later, when she sees a pack of wolves: "Why were there *people* with the wolves? It made no sense." Hm, I don't know...MAYBE BECAUSE YOU F\*CKING LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE MANY PEOPLE HAVE AN ANIMAL ALTER EGO?! Plus, she's cutesy and I hate her for it. When our heroes are literally *putting their lives on the line in mere moments*, the darling Jane's reaction: "She wrinkled her nose. 'Armies aren't very good about carrying libraries with them. I can't imagine why. We'd fight so much less if everyone would just sit down and read.'" Bleh, bleh, bleh-edy-bleh. Dialogue like that can give you a cavity.

Gifford, on the other hand: no empathy, selfish, also dumb. At one point in the book, the husband-and-wife duo encounter a group of villagers whose lives are being ruined by a pack of Edians. He leaves them and forces Jane to leave them. Later, when Jane makes him go back, he just watches her tend to their wounds and pass out food. Not to learn what she's doing or get a sense of how he can help. Of course not. No, G is watching because she looks hot. Jane is HAUNTED by their marriage, under the impression that he's an asshole, a womanizer, etc etc. G is aware of these (false) perceptions and does NOTHING to dispel them.

Ugh.

Edward just...sucks. He's boring. At the beginning, he wants to marry Jane (his cousin), but gives her up to G because he's dying. Later, he thinks, "Jane was like a sister to him, that kind of affection between them." *What?* It's like the first part of the book was a sitcom pilot and the rest of the season decides to go in a different direction. (Okay, yes, I'm thinking about *The Mindy Project*.) He's also weak, powerless, helpless, synonyms. One point of this book is that Edward's sexist philosophy is proven wrong...but during the 500 pages he gets help from the women around him COUNTLESS times. It's exhausting.

Okay, smaller characters. Gracie literally APPEARS out of the f\*cking English countryside to be Edward's love interest. Since there are approx. 300 pages to kill, that takes forever for no reason. Beyond Gracie's glossy black curls, vivid green eyes, kissable mouth and darling brogue, she's not given many traits. Mary is just a villain, and not even a good one. Bess spends the entire book helping out her brother - WITH NO MOTIVATION TO DO SO. The whole time I was hoping she would betray them or something. She dedicates her time and risks her life for a cause she has no reason to care about. (And her only character trait is "nice.") (So when the narrators referenced this group of crazy teens as "characters you've come to know and love," I think you'll understand why I laughed more at that than the supposed jokes.)

Now that we've covered characters, let's move on to their relationships. And let's start with the fact that *500 pages is way too long for constant miscommunications*. ESPECIALLY WHEN THE CHARACTERS ARE MARRIED. By the end, I was just hoping they would break up or one of them would fall off a cliff or get mauled by a bear Edian or something. WE GET IT, AUTHORS. LOVE SPRUNG FROM AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE. VERY ORIGINAL.

That's what's preventing me from giving this more than one star, I think. It's not original at all. It's a parade of tropes and clichés smashed into a speculative historical fiction narrative. Magic versus non-magic? Check. Shapeshifting? Check. Dethroned king? Check. Female protagonist obsessed with reading? Check. Narrator that addresses the audience? Check. Multiple perspectives? Check. Journey across medieval England? Check. Love springing where there was none? Check. King falling in love with commoner? Check-ity-check. Big moment of king convincing opposing forces to join him for the fight of the lifetime? Happens-more-than-once check. Offensive philosophy being proven wrong? Took 500 pages but check. I could go on but my wrist is hurting because I type weirdly. Suffice to say it's nothing new.

(view spoiler)

And now...as always in books I don't enjoy...it's time for...GENERAL STUPIDITY! Yes, fans of the show know GENERAL STUPIDITY is the category for when authors don't get their books proofread well enough! It's the little easy mistakes that truly get under the ol' skin, no? Let's get started, and let's do it fast!

- 1) In Edward's impoverished jetset across the British countryside, he suddenly sources 10 sovereigns.
- 2)

This magic is bonkers ill-defined. 3) The idea that France would ally with the RIGHTFUL ENGLISH MONARCH is LAUGHABLE!!! 4) When Edward and G go to fight a "Great White Bear" (already doesn't fit thematically) it has droppings the size of a horse's, despite being the size of a tree when on all fours - plus that whole encounter was SO anticlimactic. 5) This book takes lines from classics (mostly Shakespeare, which is explained, albeit dumb-ly), steals a scene from *The Princess Bride* (G vs. Dudley is WAY too similar to Wesley vs. Humperdinck, down to pretend threats of strength and "Drop your sword"), and takes the frying-pan-as-cute-girl's-weapon idea from *Tangled*. (If you were still convinced it was fresh and original.)

The back of the book is just so misleading. It states, "Lady Jane Grey, sixteen, is about to be married to a total stranger - and caught up in an insidious plot to rob her cousin, King Edward, of his throne. But that's the least of Jane's problems. *She's* about to become Queen of England. Like that could go wrong." That book sounds interesting. Wish I'd read whatever the synopsis writer thought they were reading. Because that covers just about none of this book. Could've read about something so fascinating as Jane actually ruling or being caught up in a plot or various hijinks ensuing. Too bad, I guess.

I suppose what it comes down to is: if you're going to write a book in which you thoroughly change history, make it more interesting than the actual history. Because I found this one a total slog. I much prefer the real story that real events gave to us. History is cool, man!

Bottom line: I'm upset, because I think most of you liked this book...but I disliked the characters, found it boring, thought the historic revisions were silly, felt misled by the synopsis, was bugged by stolen ideas, counted clichés, wished death on characters just so the quasi-will-they-won't-they would end, and wanted to read about the actual, more interesting, real-life story. For those reasons, I have to give it one star.

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## Anne says

[I'm not actually all that smart-like, if I'm being honest (hide spoiler)]

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## Drew says

### Oh my goodness, that was the best thing ever!

Is it possible for a book to be sweet, funny, awesome, and led by a cast of amazing narrators? Indeed it is, because that book is *My Lady Jane*.

When I first heard about it, I was skeptical. A comical retelling of Lady Jane Grey, written by three different authors? It sounded like a recipe for disaster. As it turned out, **I've never read a better co-authored novel**. The writing flowed so I couldn't tell the authors apart and the chapters transitioned smoothly.



The plot was absolutely hilarious and witty. The comparisons to The Princess Bride were spot on. I appreciated that the humor wasn't silly or crude (as I was afraid it would be), but clever and sarcastic.

**Meet Jane.** She's about to marry a total stranger since her cousin, Edward VI, is dying, and she's next in line for the throne, but all Jane wants to do is read her books. Meanwhile, Edward has problems of his own to worry about - there are plots to overthrow him, he's slowly dying of "the Affliction," and he's never even kissed a girl!

There were ties to the original Jane Grey story, but the world was changed so that the courts raging against each other were "Verities" and "Eðians." Eðians are people who possess the power to shape-shift into animals, but there are those in the court who deem them "beasts" and believe they should be burned at the stake.

So. Her husband was a horse.  
And no one had told her.

**I loved the slow-burn romance.** Jane and Gifford, otherwise known as "G," were total strangers upon their first meeting (at their wedding) and hated each other. Of course, they gradually learned to tolerate one another, though there were too many infuriating almost-kisses in my opinion (The Lady Janies could be so cruel!).

In their bedchamber, Jane set a pillow and blanket on the floor next to the bed.  
"Jane, I cannot allow you to sleep on the floor," G said gallantly.  
She smiled. "The pillow and blanket are for you, my lord."

From a book I didn't expect much from, this turned out to be absolutely **magical, adventurous, and heartwarming**. I don't see how anyone could fail to fall in love with this story and its wonderful characters.

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**Sana says**

**\*\*Some spoiler-y quotes ahead!!!\*\***

**"Very funny, my lady. And that reminds me"---he pointed a finger at her---"no horse jokes."  
He was making it too easy. "Ah, my lord, why the long face?"  
"That's it!"**

You know..... marrying a horse doesn't sound THAT bad. As long as his name is Gifford Dudley, oh hell yeah. Who knew I would love a book about a girl getting married to a horse, living in a world where people

can shape shift into animals with a 16 year old dying king who has never been kissed.

This is one of the silliest books out there, but it genuinely made me laugh and I can't deny how much I enjoyed this!!!!

### **“Dedication**

**For everyone who knows there was enough room for Leonardo DiCaprio on that door.**

**And for England. We're really sorry for what we're about to do to your history.”**

This book is the "true story" of Lady Jane in the Tudor time period. England is divided between Verities and Eðians. Eðians can shape shift into animals, while Verities can not and there has been a lot of tension and war between these two. 16 year old King Edward is dying and gets his cousin, Lady Jane, married to a stranger to secure the throne and keep peace in England. Little do they know that there are people out there plotting against Edward and trying to steal the throne for themselves.

### **?CHARACTERS**

Edward was a character I liked at first, but then started to really annoy me. He's only 16 years old and King of England, but told that he has 6 months, and if he's lucky a year, left to live because he has "The Affliction." Our poor boy is going to die a virgin and probably won't be able to kiss a pretty girl with tongue. Edward was really funny at first and I really didn't want him to die, but as I read from his POV, his sexism (he does change later on) was annoying me and I was starting to find his POV boring. I didn't really care if he did die, oops.

**“Armies aren't very good about carrying libraries with them. I can't imagine why. We'd fight so much less if everyone would just sit down and read.”**

Lady Jane is pretty much all of us bookish nerds. She LOVES books and treats them like her children and would rather read a book at her own wedding. She's also a feminist queen and I would actually die for her. She's a soft little fire ball and I just.... oh my god I love her SO MUCH ajkakncjdv.

**“Your majesty, please reconsider," Lord Dudley pleaded. "Your position will be much stronger with your husband as king. The people will see it as a sign of strength - "**

**She took a deep breath. "They need signs of my strength, not my reliance on the men around me.”**

Listen y'all, I love only one horse boy and his name is Gifford fucking Dudley and he's a soft boy who loves poetry and is always brushed off aside by his father because of his uncontrollable horse condition. He spends

his nights as a man and as soon as it's daylight he transforms into a horse. I love this boy. He's one of those characters you feel the need to wrap in a warm blanket on a cold day and just give endless amounts of hugs and cookies to.

Other characters I loved were Gracie and Bess. Gracie is a badass queen who bashed Edward in the ribs after he said she should do something more womanly. Well done Queeeeeeeeen. Bess is a fucking ray of sunshine and I am 10/10 working on getting some muscles to protect her from harm.

These characters aren't really complex or anything, but I still really loved them all (minus Edward,,, kind of).

## **JANE X GIFFORD**

**“I love you more than I love books.”**

Listen omg, I love these two so much I will willingly get myself cut in half or some **[insert gross gory shit here]** for these two. **They have a super cute hate/enemies to lover trope which I am a fucking garbage for.** These two were my favorite part about this book. Their bickering and very funny horse jokes and adventures were to die for.

**"You nearly died, and then who would I have argued with?"**

**"You'd have found someone."**

**"No." He stepped toward her. "I only want to argue with you."**

On the night of their honeymoon G is looking forward to Jane asking him to bed, but instead she tells him they should go out and give food to the villagers and help them wounded around and akdsjkbvkfds they do it and it's super fucking cute and I just fuckING SHQLOAVE LOIVE THE KNDSA THEMM.

**“What my wife desires--and what you should have guessed, had you paid attention--is bookcases. And books, of course, to fill them. Not more decorations or useless items. She wants books.”**

He's also so respectful of her and genuinely cares about her. G is just,,, my man. Love him.

**“No horse jokes," he said.**

**"My lord, I apologize for the horse joke. If you put down the book---unharmd!---I will give you a carrot."**

**He brandished the book at her. "Was that a horse joke?"**

**"Neigh."**

**"Was that a horse joke?"**

Obviously, this is a really cheesy, romantic, light-hearted, silly comedy that isn't to be taken seriously. Don't expect anything else because you probably aren't going to get that. Anyways, I genuinely Laughed Out Loud reading this and my insides were just mush and gooey. This book is a treasure. It's one of those books you just want to keep holding tight against your chest and never let go of. I loved it.

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## Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

Omg! This book was so damn good!!!! I can't believe it took me this long to get to it. I'm excited for the next book!! Yay!

Happy Reading!

Mel ???

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## Lola says

**It's not easy to write a review for a book when said book is tightly held against your chest.**

*My Lady Jane* is wonderful and so, so magical I want to keep it close to me for an indefinite amount of time.

You might wonder: Three authors... three different point of views... three stories intertwined? How will that play out?

**Comically**, apparently.

This key to having a great time with this beautiful piece of fiction is to **not take it too seriously**.

Sometimes absurd, sometimes silly but always charming, *My Lady Jane* will NOT let you fall into boredom.

The chapters are brimming with humour, romance, adventure and absolutely delightful characters!

It's said to be an alternative fantasy story of Lady Jane Grey, and while I am not a fan of historical fiction, **I adored this one to bits**.

As I said earlier, it's not meant to be taken seriously. Really, it's all for your entertainment and the many changes that were made to Lady Jane Grey's real story are so interesting because they're **original and unexpected and definitely diverting**.

For a book that was written by three different authors, they certainly nailed the point of views. The writing *flowed*. There is no abrupt change in the writing style; **everything is smoothly done**.

It *works*. Everything does: the not-so-proper-to-the-century writing style (—the word “vampire” clearly didn't exist during that era!), the light atmosphere, the shape-shifting element, the many dangers and

adventures and awkward yet fun situations the characters are put in.

I never read *The Princess Bride* before (though I am not unfamiliar with the movie adaptation) but knowing they have much in common automatically places it to the top of my TBR pile!

One last thought: It's very rare for me to read five hundred pages this fast, but it's hard not to breeze through *My Lady Jane*. **Even putting it down for a second will not be an easy thing to do.**

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### **Hailey (HaileyinBookland) says**

I freaking loved this. I'm making everyone I know read it ASAP!

P.S. Video review to come

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### **Cait • A Page with a View says**

I CANNOT EXPLAIN HOW MUCH I LOVE THIS BOOK. I was expecting semi-serious historical fiction, but it's more like the Monty Python version of the drama between Henry VIII's kids.

I don't want to ruin any of the plot, so I'll just say this book is hilarious. Basically, the story starts out adding its own twist on history, but then ends up chucking history out the window and rewriting a happier ending for King Edward VI, Lady Jane Grey, and Lord Guildford Dudley. All of the familiar faces like Elizabeth I, Bloody Mary, and Mary Queen of Scots are featured. And the new ending could totally still fit in with actual history.

There were SO many hilarious references and actual lines pulled straight out of Monty Python and *The Princess Bride*. And Gifford's character kept coming up with a ton of Shakespeare's future lines.

The way everything fit together was so incredibly clever. The romance and action were even well done... I have zero complaints. I would 100% read this kind of story for every executed monarch throughout history. I really want one for Marie Antoinette!

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### **Ryan says**

*“Dedication:*

*For everyone who knows there was enough room for Leonardo DiCaprio on that door.*

*And for England. We're really sorry for what we're about to do to your history.”*

Since I read this as an audiobook, I'm at a bit of a loss as to how I'm going to review it. I don't normally listen to audiobooks - they're not really "my thing." (In fact, had I read a physical copy of this, I'd probably would have given it a full five stars.) So just a word of forewarning: **this'll probably be a mess.** Great. Now that that's out of the way. I **loved** this book.

Oh, where do I even begin? A fantasy re-telling of the Tudor period with shape-shifters and magic? Hell yes. Sign me up.

***"Dearest Jane, Sorry I made you marry a horse. Your father-in-law is trying to kill me. Send help."***

If you go into this expecting some dramatic, world-changing story accurately telling the reader facts about English history, you will be sorely disappointed.

In order for someone to enjoy this book, **do not take it seriously.** This book is *supposed* to be cliché, and cheesy, and ridiculous.

This book was so damn *cute*, and hilarious, and it made me feel all warm and fuzzy. I spent a good half of this book smiling into my hand, and giggling like a twelve-year-old. It was great.

***"We'd fight so much less if everyone would just sit down and read."***

I couldn't agree more, Jane, I couldn't agree more.

A round of applause to these three amazing ladies for writing such an adorable book (and I am so sorry this review doesn't do it justice).

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**Fables&Wren says**

**WrensReads Review:**

Honestly I-  
...no that's not a good start.

**IF YOU EVER READ THIS BOOK, DON'T. LISTEN TO THIS BOOK FIRST OMGSH PLEASE YES IT IS THE BEST EVER PRAISE GOES TO KATHERINE KELLGREN OMGSH YOU WERE MADE TO READ THIS BOOK TO ALL THE WORLD.**

I finished two point five incredible books on the same day, so my brain is a little fried from delight. Seriously I have to keep reminding myself to come write this review and stop dancing in the kitchen with the dogs or asking the cats if they are actually from the bloodline of King Henry VIII's.

\*composes self\*

I was so giddy about everything in this book. Like seriously so giddy. I was always laughing out-loud which was completely awkward when you are standing in line at the check out, let me tell you.

**If you are in need of a laugh and a light read, read this book I beg you.**

**If you are in need of a feminist-like book, read this book I beg you.**

**If you are in need of a history lesson, read this book I beg you.**

Seriously this is about Queen Jane's reign of like, what, nine days? I am not too sure, since I am not an expert on the matter, but these author's are. They did their homework and found out the very (*not so*) truth of what happened in that time with Queen Jane.

Young King Edward is dying. He caught a tragic disease. He's never been kissed and all he has in the world are his two darling sisters, his beautiful cousin Jane and his dog, Pet (how original, I know). Since he doesn't have any children, his throne would go to his sister Mary, unfortunately, until one of his advisers gives him another idea...

Jane is the Belle of the story. The girl who just wants to read books (so, you know, all of us) and then read some more books and then HER MOTHER MARRIES HER OFF TO A GUY WHO TURNS INTO A HORSE (That's the beast, if you weren't catching on). She is mortified, humiliated and NOT HAPPY. HE IS A HORSE WHAT IN BLAZES IS SHE SUPPOSE TO DO WITH A HORSE.

Said horse, Gifford, can't control that by day he is a steed and by night he is a man. And why does she always have her nose in a book anyway? Is she not pleasant looking? Heaven forbids he marries someone who looks like an animal.

Gifford belongs to a group of people called Eðian (eth-y-un). They have two different forms. But they are hated by those who don't. I kind of got the whole Protestants and Catholics feel from the tension between the two groups.

And that's all I am going to say to you. You should know the gist of this story (it is history, you know) but a lot of the major details were missed in the history books. You'll have to read this book to know the (not so) truth.

So if you fit in any of the categories listed above (needs a laugh, likes equality, history buff) then you should read this book. It was really hilarious.

## Wendy Darling says

**4.5 stars** This revisionist retelling of Lady Jane Grey's brief reign and romance shouldn't work--but it does! It's deliriously dotty and clever, with affectionate nods to great absurdist historical comedies like *THE PRINCESS BRIDE*, *Monty Python*, and even, I think, *Black Adder* and *LADYHAWKE*. The ridiculously punny humor had me giggling from beginning to end.

It's also superbly well-crafted, especially considering the three POVs were written by three different authors, and the historical details and context are inserted with just the right touch. Most notably, the strict mores and sexism of the time are observed and acknowledged before they are slyly subverted, particularly in the fantastically endearing and capable women (only one of whom wields a weapon).

It's hard to believe a tragic moment in history could be turned into such a delightful confection of joyous alternate history, but *The Lady Janies* have done it.

Review to come. Love it to pieces.

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