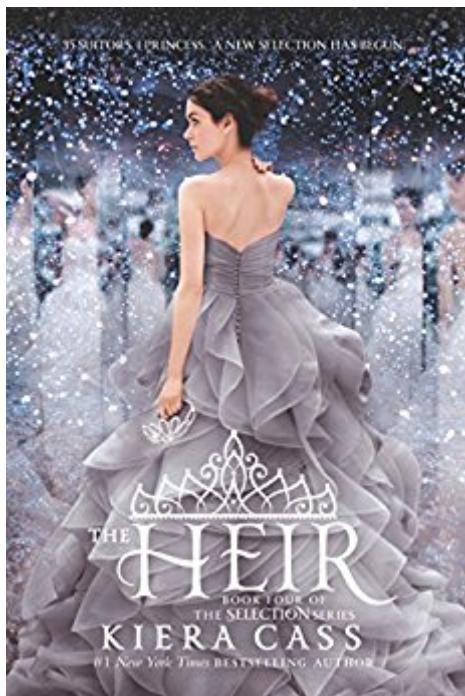


The book was found

The Heir (The Selection Book 4)



a frustrating, annoying, and bratty protagonist who I often found myself wishing I could slap, but by the end of the novel, I realized that somewhere along the way she had matured and developed into a tolerable main character who I could root for. Now, after reading about 35 women chase after 1 man, I was extremely excited to see it play out the other way around. Kiera Cass did not disappoint. I cannot decide which of the several main male characters that I want to be with Eadlyn. I absolutely loved Kile, Henri, Fox, and Hale. And Erik as well but I don't know if he counts as being in the running for her hand. My absolute favorite part of this novel was, of course, Maxon and America. They were still just as adorable as they were in the first three books. Maxon is still completely devoted to America while America adores Maxon with all of her being. I loved the references to their selection and the shenanigans that occurred. I desperately need the sequel, especially after that god awful cliff hanger. Seriously, give me more now. *The Heir* was a solid 4/5, which is surprising considering it had so much to live up to due to it following the amazing first three Selection books.

No, seriously. I know it's tempting to want to get "the conclusion" to the story, but you're just in for a disappointment. You do get some additional information about existing characters from the first three books, but the focus of this is entirely on Eadlyn and that is truly unfortunate. She starts out as a truly bratty girl, and while she does turn around on that point, her entire evolution - indeed, the entire series - seems rushed and awkward. She makes a far greater change from the beginning of book one to the end of book two than America did over three books, and it's entirely unbelievable. She essentially grows a new personality and a new set of morals in the space of 8 weeks, and I just don't buy it. Eadlyn is such a shallow character, with no depth, and I find that time spent with her is uncomfortable from start to finish. The rest of the story feels the same way - shallow and rushed. Perhaps Kiera Cass would have done better to extend Eadlyn's tale over three books as well, so it didn't seem so completely jarring. The end feels completely out of the blue and has the ring of "deus ex machina" about it, and made me wish I hadn't wasted my time. I don't really believe in any of the other characters either; even America and Maxon seem to be carbon copies of the strong, well-developed characters they were only one book ago. The little tidbits about them and the rest of the original gang are not worth the flattening they undergo in this book and the subsequent one, and I'd rather they live in their original form in my mind. I'm still a huge fan of the first three books, but it seems to me that it might be better to simply pretend that the story ends there.

This book is entertaining but not as good as the first 3 books. It doesn't have as much romance and the public unrest isn't as violent. Also, I would NOT consider it a part of "The Selection" book series

because of the HUGE jump in time, even though another Selection does take place. **SUMMARY:** This story takes place about 2 decades after America's "Selection". It is taken from the point of view of America's first born child and only daughter, Eadlyn Schreave (age 18). The caste system has been abolished, but the society is still a little unsettled with their situation due to discrimination based on their once associated caste level. In order to try and distract the people, Eadlyn is pressured by her parents (Queen America and King Maxon) to host her own selection. Eadlyn does not approve of the Selection but says she'll make it last 3 months even though she has no intention of finding a soul mate. She believes she can handle the job of being the queen on her own. During the selection, Eadlyn finds out via a letter from her brother Ahren that the public unrest is caused by her TV image as being shallow and selfish and told her that she needs to not be scared of showing her true self. And she does seem to have the spoiled brat mentality through most of the book, but it might be the author trying to show the strain of learning to perform as a royal but it's not quite clear since none of the royal responsibilities were ever explained. Finally, the book ends with America having a heart attack and Eadlyn finally coming to terms with truly trying to find a soul mate.

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