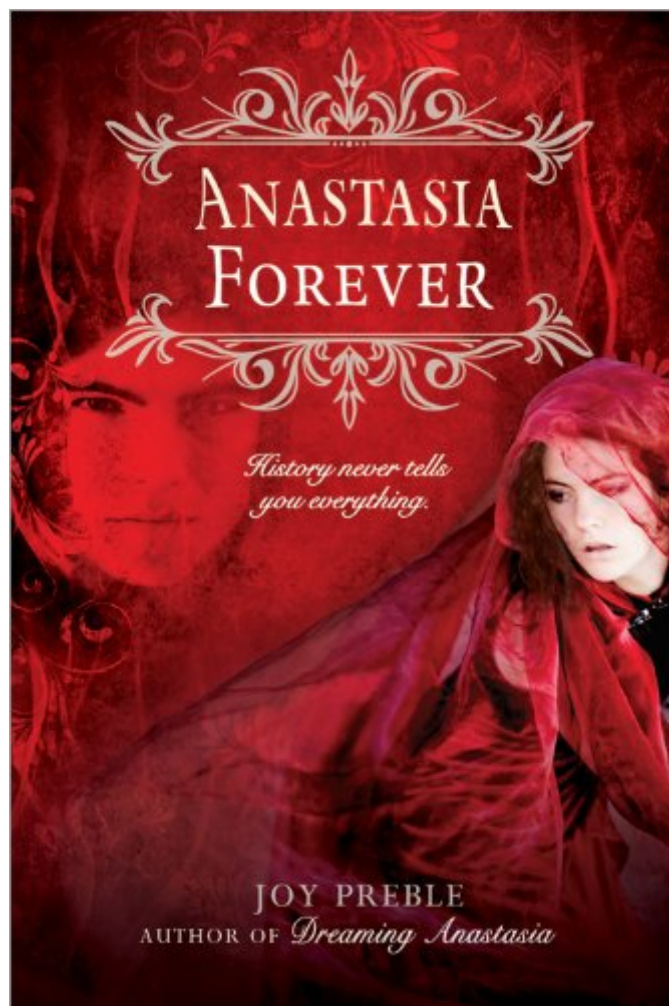


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Anastasia Forever (Dreaming Anastasia)



Synopsis

Praise for Haunted: "Spooky, sassy, sinister, and sexy!" — Cynthia Leitich Smith, New York Times bestselling author
Is it possible to change the past? Anastasia No one ever knew what happened to her except her half brother, Viktor — and he'll do anything to keep it that way. Anne She just wants a normal boyfriend, a normal family — no visions of the past, no evil mermaids, no Brotherhood trying to kill her. But Anne is not normal...and she's capable of a lot more than she thinks. Ethan He's been eighteen for nearly a century, and finding Anne is the best thing that's ever happened to him. But the magic in his blood is turning darker, forcing him to wonder whether he's the most dangerous threat of all...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have enjoyed the Anastasia Forever Series very much! Fun and interesting twist on Anastasia. The story of Anastasia has always interested me and what happened to her....this book is definitely for paranormal fantasy fans.

Anastasia Forever... LOVED IT!!!! This book has all you need; Time Travel, Dangerous adventures, a grandmother who just happens to be a mermaid, a witch and ofcourse Anne, Ethan, Tess and Ben!!! If you havent read it you got to. I love the ending the best!!! Anastasia Forever is a book you cant but down.

Great ending to the series

Psycho Rusalkas? I mean...Mermaids? Really?....all of them running like maniacs in the city flopping their tales and nobody noticed them? and also the giant fat hands of a witch flying down from heaven in the middle of main street and nobody noticed them? The story had potential, but the writer wrote this story for an audience from 4 year old to 18. Too mature sometimes and too kindergarten silly on others, not balanced at all. Also it was extremely repetitive/redundant, going on and on about damn Baba Yaga and Victor, repeating the same information on different ways as if reminding the readers because we are all idiots. Just because I am a disciplined reader I attempted to read the trilogy but I could not make it to the end of the 3rd book, got soooo sick of the same crap going on in circles only to end up in a predictable ending. The story could have been more romantic but the writer missed on that opportunity, instead, she focused on the stupid friend Tess, a complete bimbo of no substance that had nothing to offer to the plot in any way. I'm glad its over. I dumped the books in a bag and donated the 3 of them to the library for the next victim to fall for it.

Two words: Russian folklore. I absolutely loved Dreaming Anastasia series, and Anastasia Forever - the third and final instalment - in particular. If you're into folklore, myths, legends, spooky bedtime stories about witches and fantastic creatures that are out there to get you.. well, this is the series for you! Featuring rich Eastern European mythology, culture and history, Anastasia Forever is a breath-taking conclusion to a mervellous, enticing and beautifully-written YA Historical Romance about love, destiny, immortality, dreams, long buried secrets and freedom. A well-researched, absolutely fascinating and dangerously addictive story that I couldn't put down! As much as I would love to discuss the plot, I can't. This is the third and final novel, and therefore anything I would say would be a spoiler for those of you who haven't yet read it. But let me just tell you that this was one of the best, most exciting and satisfying final books I've had the pleasure of reading. Even more fast-paced and entertaining than the previous two books, even more fun and charming (with all the awesome supporting characters and their often-hilarious interactions), even more heartbreaking and

mesmerizing. When I finished reading it, I immediately felt the need to sit down and re-read the entire series. It was that good. It's a story of three people whose lives are intertwined with each other in the most bizarre, intriguing way. Anne - a sixteen year old girl from Chicago - is connected through bloodline to some tragic and mysterious events from the past. When one day Anne accidentally collides with a handsome blue-eyed boy named Ethan, her whole world gets flipped inside out in a blink of an eye. Ethan tells Anne that Anastasia Romanov - the girl Anne has been dreaming about every night - is not dead. She's been captured and held captive by the Russian witch Baba Yaga. And the only person who can help free Anastasia is Anne. With that starts an adventure that is just as exciting as it is dangerous, and just as magical as it is romantic. An adventure that now - sadly - comes to an end in this extraordinary final book! Special powers, time travel, bizarre creatures Anne never thought existed outside of fairy tale books - our heroine will have to face all that and more.. Is she strong enough to help Anastasia? This series was - and I'm not exaggerating - totally mind blowing. I love mythology and folklore, and Russian folklore in particular has so much to offer! It's so rich in beautiful (often vividly depicted, creepy) tales and spooky stories. And Joy Preble did a magnificent job researching all that and then incorporating all the most fascinating information into the story. At times I was oooh-ing and aaah-ing, other times I'd get goosebumps, but I never felt bored or uninterested in the events that were unravelling before my eyes. The story line moved swiftly and was full of heart-pounding events. There were many jaw-dropping twists and turns, and in the end I was left breathless, but with a huge smile on my face, satisfied and content. All the characters in this series are wonderful. I found myself connecting with Anne and Anastasia in more than one way, and I couldn't help but to fall under Ethan's charm. They're all complex, likeable, realistic and strong. I especially loved the fact that our female lead was a strong, powerful character, who - even though she sometimes did make mistakes - was ready to face whatever life would throw her way, always finding a way to overcome all the obstacles. She was a fighter and I admired her. Not to mention that she was just so very easy to love - her personality was easy-going, likable, cheerful, and positive. All the side-kicks were great, too, especially Tess and Ben. For supporting characters I found them exceptionally fleshed out and their presence added a lot of flavour to the story. Joy Preble built an incredible world, filled with historical events (the Romanov and their tragic story!), mythical creatures, goosebumpy stories and characters you genuinely care about. On top of all that, her smoothly flowing, captivating prose was like a breath of fresh air! I was amazed how much I ended up loving this series, and am so very sad to see it come to an end. At the same time, though, I'm so excited to see what else this incredibly talented author has in store for us!

I was so excited to hear that there was going to be a 3rd book in this series. I didn't feel the story was quite done after the 2nd. This was a much better overall ending to the story!! I think Anne really had a lot to deal with in this book. She has that promise that she made to Baba Yaga, the Russian witch. A maybe boyfriend struggling with his new found mortality. A best friend who probably meddles a little too much. A grandmother who is a rusalka (a form of mermaid). It's not wonder that she really just wants to have a normal life, even if it's just for a little while. Sadly, we know that isn't going to happen. Baba Yaga calls on Anne to make good on her promise she made in exchange for her powers. She needs to stop Vincent. In true Lord Voldemort form (I love the point that Vincent technically came first in time) he hides a piece of his soul to become immortal. The problem is not only where, but when did he do it. I loved how intricately woven the story was. It really was about stories in stories. Anne had to understand Vincent to find where he could possibly have hidden his soul. I love that she gets to travel back in time in this story. I think it helps her unravel all the pieces and truly accept who she is and what she needs to do. I love what we get to briefly meet Anastasia when she was alive and well. I love how Ethan is having a hard time dealing with what has happened to him. But, yet it never stops him from doing everything he can to help Anne. Even if it comes to admitting that she doesn't need his help. I enjoy how Tess is willing to accept whatever life throws at her just because she's Anne's best friend and she refuses to sit on the sidelines. I think Baba Yaga herself is one of my favorite parts of the series. I tend to have a hard time with mythical characters written bigger than life (and she really is here). But, I just found her so damn interesting. I didn't think so of things she does in our world to be farfetched, but it goes along with the idea that we see what we want to see. Easier to believe freak storms, etc over the idea that a crazy witch swooped out of the sky. This was an extremely satisfying end to a series that I enjoyed very much. I will be looking forward to Preble's next work!

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