



Welcome to the fairy tale world of the Three Kingdoms. One magical island. Three monarchies buckling under political tensions. No chance of anyone acting how they would in a bedtime story.

The Princess and the Dragon and Other Stories About Unlikely Heroes: the fairy tale you wish you'd read before some old guy with questionable ethics ruined the genre.

Southend-on-Sea, 22nd December 2020. — Author Francesca Burke's debut novel *The Princess and the Dragon and Other Stories About Unlikely Heroes* is a young adult fantasy in which unwieldy teens embark on non-health-and-safety-approved quests through their magical, politically conflicted island home, the Three Kingdoms, and uncover secrets that risk destroying the kingdoms completely.

At just 196 pages, *The Princess and the Dragon and Other Stories About Unlikely Heroes* explores modern day issues including political tension, cultural diversity and the difficulties of adolescence through the lens of the magic and societies of the Three Kingdoms. Princess Amelia's home, the Kingdom of Mirrors, is on its knees, ravaged by the cantankerous Sapphire Dragon. Amelia must find a way to rid her country of its unwelcome guest *and* work out how to restore its fortunes before her parents marry her off to clear the kingdom's debts. Prince Richard of the Valley of Dreams knows he's not very heroic... he'd rather read about quests than actually go on one. But when he finds himself travelling to a haunted tower, he discovers a treacherous conspiracy that could rip the Three Kingdoms apart... and learns there might be some heroism tucked up his sleeve after all. Esme Delacroix is a psychic living in Stormhaven, the only part of the Three Kingdoms

where magic is taboo. A terrifying vision sends Esme and her friend Violet on a perilous quest that shakes Stormhaven and the Three Kingdoms to its core.

Initially published in 2019 on Francesca's Patreon, 'The No. 1 Reader's Club,' and on her blog, as well as on Wattpad and Archive of Our Own, *The Princess and the Dragon and Other Stories About Unlikely Heroes* was partially funded by patronage and has been well received by early readers, with reviews describing it as '[reminiscent of Lemony Snicket](#)'.

The ebook is available to buy and borrow on Kobo, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Bookmate, RedShelf, ProQuest and more. View the ever-expanding retailer and library list [here](#). There is also an ARC available [on BooksSprout](#).

Further Information and Blurb

On the magical island of the Three Kingdoms, disparaged teenagers quest to save their people from dragons, duplicity and dictatorship. This is a book of fairy tales, but not of happy endings. Don't expect to fall asleep to sweet dreams when you're done.

- [GoodReads reviews](#)
- [Blog tour](#)

About Francesca Burke

Born in Rochford in 1995, Francesca Burke decided at an early age that the worlds inside books and television were infinitely preferable to the real one. Initially put off the idea of being a writer because it requires one to sit alone and ignore people, she now finds sitting alone and ignoring people to be the most satisfying parts of the job. She lives in Southend-on-Sea.

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