



TEEN SERVICES
COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

The Heir And The Spare By Emily Albright
Reviewed by Cynthia Romero

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Grade: 11th

Book Title: The Heir and The Spare

Author: Emily Albright

Number of Pages: 287

Rating (On A Scale of 1-5): 4.6/5

Character List:

- Evangeline (Evie) Gray - Evangeline is a 20 year old woman who switches to Oxford University from Seattle Pacific University. She is sent on a quest by her late mother that will uncover life-changing secrets.
- Edmund Stuart - Edmund is a young man who is second in line to the royal English throne. He accompanies Evie on her quest that her late mother sent her on.
- Preston - Edmund's best friend who seems to have an interest in Evie. He is the voice of reason for both Evie and Edmund and is there for them whenever they need him.
- Anton LeClerc - Evie's late mother's solicitor and good friend. He helps her mother out on the quest by giving Evie letters about the quest as she progresses.
- Lady Jacqueline/Jax - The antagonist of the book who is Edmund's "frenemy." Hers and Edmund's family want her and Edmund to be together, but Edmund can't stand her. She tries to get Evie to back off Edmund so she can have him to herself.

Review:

Taking place in the United Kingdom, Evangeline "Evie" Gray transfers to Oxford University after being in Seattle Pacific University. The main reason why Evie decided to go to Oxford was her mom, Lilliana, attended the University. After her 17th birthday, Evie got her first letter to go on a quest that her mother sends her on, which uncovers family secrets. She gets introduced to a group of friends, and also takes an interest in Edmund, who happens to be second in line to the English throne. Edmund is intrigued by her love for history and museums, since none of his friends are interested in that field. They both take trips to where Lilliana sends her when Evie reads the letters. There, they come across her good friend and solicitor, Anton. Anton gives her letters as she accomplishes each task that is stated. While that is taken place, Evie and Edmund start to develop feelings for each other. The problem: Edmund's parents, the King

and Queen, already have another person in mind for Edmund to wed. That person happens to be Lady Jacqueline, known as Jax, since she has a title. During their quest to see what Lilliana wants Evie to find out, Edmund and Evie find out that Evie has royal blood. Evie is the next successor to become the Dutchess when her grandmother, Clarice, decides to give her the title.

Filled with romance and a bit of mystery, *The Heir and The Spare* is a book about finding your roots that make you who you are. Through the journey that Lilliana sent her on, Evie found out about her mother's early life that she decided to escape. Evie felt closer to her mother during this journey, which brings the bonding of family together and opened new doors for her. I would definitely recommend this book to people who want to believe that fate brings people together, and unite family together, and discover the amazing things that come from it.

Personally, I believe that the story had a good plot. However, there were some flaws in the story. For example, Preston did talk about how he has no title but his family formerly had one, in a way. I wish that Preston's family story would've been spoken more about instead of him sometimes attempting to make a move on Evie. It'd be really great if the author made a spin-off featuring Preston. Overall, if anyone's into romance, royal stories, British media, such as BBC's *Doctor Who* (which was briefly mentioned), then this story is definitely for you!