

POISONED RATIONALITY

My life as ruled by what I read

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009

Book Review: Princess Alyss of Wonderland

Title: Princess Alyss of Wonderland

-Blog: [The LGW Librarian Blog](#)

Author(s): Frank Beddor

Related:

Genre: fantasy, young adult

- [The Looking Glass Wars](#)

Publisher/Year: Dial/2007

- [Seeing Redd](#)

-Webpage: [The Looking Glass Wars](#)

Summary: Feast your eyes on the collected memorabilia of the real Alyss! This lavishly illustrated scrapbook includes:

Alyss' embattled correspondence with Lewis Carroll

Actual annotated manuscript pages from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, as well as the early reviews of the book A flip book given to Alyss by John Tenniel, the original illustrator of Carroll's whimsical tale.

Journal entries and detailed drawings describing the indelible mark that Wonderland left on the young Alyss. Removable letters that the princess wrote to her loved ones back home. And a playable deck of cards created by "Alyss" to battle the imposter "Alice." This is a book for fans of fantasy and of the bestselling "ology" books, for Lewis Carroll scholars, and especially for young girls in search of a fresh, new, princess story.

Review: I picked this up when I picked up *The Looking Glass Wars* that is to say, during New York Comic-Con 2009 when the author spun me a grand tale that had me enchanted. I count myself extremely lucky as this seems very hard to find now!

I'm a fan of those '-ology' books honestly, I like books like that with little hidden messages and interactive things to read and handle. Its a great way to get kids interested. This book doesn't disappoint me at all in that respect. There is nine different little letters and flip open cards to read as well as the beautifully illustrated playing cards to 'Wage the War' in Wonderland.

The book itself is written like a diary-scrapbook, meant to be a companion to the series as Alyss jots down what she remembers about Wonderland and doesn't want to forget ever. There are dozens of illustrations throughout the book--some are clearly meant to be 'hand drawn' by Alyss while others are pictures she clipped from places--photos offer a little insight into the time period when she lived in this world.

This isn't a book that someone who hasn't read at least the first book should be trolling through, it offers clarification and details about the events, but is not a stand-in for the real thing. Like a real journal the way Alyss describes things are from her viewpoint and perceptions (and this a young girl) so they are colored by her feelings entirely.

The book is beautiful, simply put. Whether its for a little girl who loves Alyss or someone like me who's beyond her 20's but still feels enchantment, its a wonderful companion piece.

POSTED BY LEXIE AT 9:07 PM

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