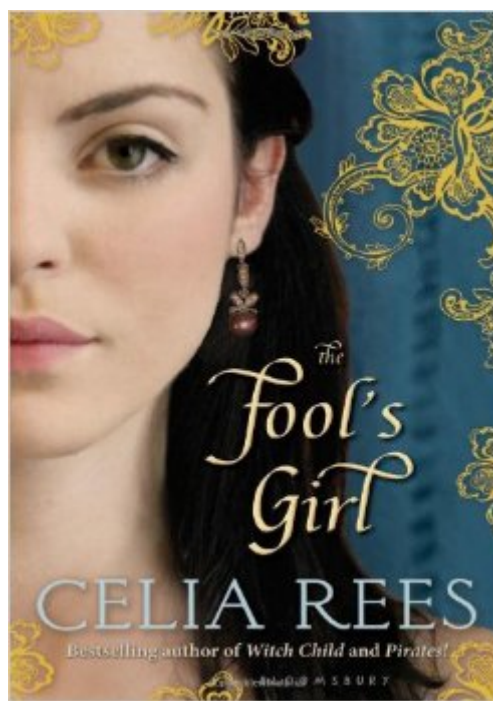


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# The Fool's Girl



## Synopsis

Young and beautiful Violetta may be of royal blood, but her kingdom is in shambles when she arrives in London on a mysterious mission. Her journey has been long and her adventures many, but it is not until she meets the playwright William Shakespeare that she gets to tell the entire story from beginning to end. Violetta and her comic companion, Feste, have come in search of an ancient holy relic that the evil Malvolio has stolen from their kingdom. But where will their remarkable quest-and their most unusual story-lead? In classic Celia Rees style, it is an engrossing journey, full of political intrigue, danger, and romance. This wholly original story is spun from Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, and includes both folly and suspense that would make the Bard proud.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens; 1 edition (August 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1599904861

ISBN-13: 978-1599904863

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #955,040 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in Â Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Renaissance #61 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Renaissance #104 in Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Theater

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Twelfth Night was the first Shakespeare play I ever saw, and it remains my very favorite. I was in seventh grade and had been nervous about my own capacity to understand Shakespeare's language. But as soon as the local university production of the comedy began, I was instantly hooked by the romance, the humor, the mistaken identities --- and, yes, by the language, too. The quick-witted Viola, the pompous Malvolio with his ridiculous yellow stockings, the boisterous Sir Toby Belch, and the surprisingly complicated Fool, Feste, all combined to make me fall in love with the Bard. And apparently I'm not alone in my affection for Twelfth Night. Popular author Celia Rees

has used the play as the inspiration for her new novel, THE FOOL'S GIRL, providing in her typically detailed, well-researched style both a sequel of sorts to the play and a dramatic explanation of how and why Shakespeare chose to dramatize this story. Short version of Shakespeare's play:

Shipwreck victim Viola washes ashore, disguises herself as a boy to gain entry to the court of Duke Orsino, who pines for the countess Olivia even as Viola secretly longs for Orsino himself. When he sends the disguised Viola to plight his troth, Olivia falls for the young messenger instead. Much confusion ensues, but ultimately Orsino and Viola are wed, as are Olivia and Viola's long-lost twin brother, Sebastian. In Rees's novel, Illyria, where Twelfth Night is set, is a real place, known primarily for its possession of a holy relic, the container in which one of the Magi brought a gift to the infant Jesus.

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