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Liffey Rivers And The Mystery Of The Sparkling Solo Dress Crown (Liffey Rivers Irish Dancer Mysteries)



Synopsis

There is more excitement at this Celtic Arch Feis in St. Louis than 13-year-old Irish dancer Liffey Rivers could have possibly imagined. As Liffey is power-walking around the feis hotel lobby preparing for the next day's dance competition, (where she is determined to win a 1st place medal to qualify for her first solo dress) she notices a suspicious-looking man with a white stripe running down the back of his dark hair, like a skunk. Liffey observes that he is carrying a shopping bag with a beautiful porcelain Irish dancer doll peeking out. The doll is wearing a dazzling diamond solo dress crown but Liffey can tell that something is wrong with the doll and follows the 'skunk man' to get a better look. In her pursuit for answers, she finds herself not only competing for a medal, but taking decisive action to thwart a criminal conspiracy. After a series of close calls and in a state of near collapse, Liffey Rivers unravels the mystery of the sparkling solo dress crown."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Food to eat while reading: Pre-feis Spaghetti and Meatballs [...]What I liked:Liffey is a spunky, quirky girl who dreams of qualifying for a solo dress and eats spaghetti and meatballs the night before every competition. Because of her overbearing personality, no one, including the reader, can anticipate what she will do next.The author pulls the reader into two new worlds that they may never otherwise explore. The first is the world of Irish dance. Second, she gives us a feel for the city of St. Louis, Missouri.Liffey lets her imagination run a bit wild, which makes her the perfect sleuth. She notices clues that other people might not even wonder about.I can see where Liffey's looniness

might be hereditary. I laughed when I heard that her aunt gave a cheer during Liffey's competition: "Kick `em high, kick `em low, go, go, go." Liffey internalizes about her fears and dreams in a way that most girls her age can relate to. She wants a solo dress more than anything. She draws her own designs for a dress, notices other girls' dresses and daydreams about it every few minutes. What I would have changed: Even though I enjoyed Liffey's eccentricities, her daydreams and a few stray points of view switches gave me whiplash. She would obsess about her dress, launch into a lecture on the St. Louis Arch, and then on to her competition. Liffey's character wavered inconsistently. She spoke of how she didn't mind that her father required her to have an escort at the hotel, and then give the escort the slip a few moments later. She couldn't relate well to Liffey. I felt pity for her that she was always left alone at competitions and had no mother to care for her.

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