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Felicity is spending the summer of 1776 at her family's Virginia plantation, King's Creek, where she rides her beloved horse Penny every day. But soon Felicity hears news that British soldiers are burning Patriot farms and raiding their animals. Could the British threaten King's Creek...and Penny?

Peril at King's Creek: A Felicity Mystery Details

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Kristine Hansen says

I'd honestly call this a 3.5 as this story was a bit difficult to get into. The author though, really captures the flavor of living in this time, and the complexities of knowing who to trust. On the other hand, to me the ending seemed a little too obvious. I was hoping for something a bit more complex like in several of the other American Girl mysteries.

Rebecca says

Eleven-year-old Felicity Merriman, her mother, and her younger siblings are spending the summer of 1776 at King's Creek, the plantation the family inherited from Felicity's grandfather. Felicity enjoys riding her beloved horse, Penny, exploring the woods with her siblings, and remembering the happy days spent there before Grandfather's death. She is also enjoying learning about the plants of the area from Mr. Haskall, a visitor at a neighboring plantation who is studying the plants of Virginia. However, Felicity fears the peace of King's Creek Plantation may be interrupted. There are rumors of British soldiers raiding Patriot plantations and stealing horses. And soon, Felicity begins to notice that Mr. Haskall's behavior is very suspicious. Could her new friend be a British spy?

This was an enjoyable historical mystery for young readers that will be most enjoyed by fans of the Felicity stories. The book is slightly longer than the regular American Girls books as well, which means it's perfect for readers beginning to outgrow those books but who still love the characters. However, the story also works as a stand alone book for those readers who haven't read other Felicity books but enjoy historical fiction set in Colonial times.

1 Elizabeth says

This book was really good. It is historical fiction. This book is about a girl named Felicity, who goes to her grandfathers plantation for the summer. There is a visitor, who is staying at the neighboring plantation. Felicity finds out something that could possibly hurt her family, and her horse named Penny. This book is slightly suspenseful, but good. I would recommend this book to kids about 9 and older, and kids who enjoy history.

Rebecca says

Easy read but intriguing story nonetheless.

Halle Stout says

This was a good book and kind of summarizes the felicity book set. It's also different to see one of my favorite American girls in this setting. It's set in the late 1700s where the revolutionary war is still waging on and is nearing VA where Felicity and her family live, the book deals with her struggles and family while living in this troubling time.

Miss Clark says

3.5 stars

Another nice little mystery set in Felicity Merriman's world and it did a great job of showing a spy for the King's Army and yet presenting him as sympathetic and far from simply "the Enemy". Great job and recommended for anyone who enjoyed Felicity's story and would like to read a bit more!

Danae says

This one's more easy to predict, but I enjoyed it anyway.

It did annoy me a couple of times. Jones apparently doesn't realize that horses sleep standing up. If a horse is lying down for an extended period of time, it is not well.

Also, I found it odd that no one had a problem with Felicity being alone with an adult man. It just seems like that would have been considered inappropriate at that time.

Maria says

I wrote a review for this but I accidentally deleted it! I loved this book just as I love all of Felicity's stories, but I was disappointed by the ending. Throughout this whole book the suspense was rising, and I was so excited to figure out the mystery, but then at the end I was let down. It doesn't tell you enough. It was still worth the read and I still recommend it. All of the other Felicity mysteries I gave 5 stars. My favorite one is probably Lady Margarets Ghost.

Katie says

As the American Revolution gets closer to home for the characters in the Felicity series, many questions and suspicions are bound to come up. These mysteries keep you in suspense and teach a lot about the time frame.

Yellowoasis says

After reading Gary Soto's essay about the awful experience he had after publishing an American Girls novel, I thought I should read a couple, one historical, one contemporary.

This is a light, quick read with a bit of historical subject matter thrown in. Felicity makes an engaging heroine. Knowing the provenance of the book, I did keep an eye out for possible American Girl 'merch' (stays? unlikely). The story is a bit too pc for my liking – the narrator is at pains to ensure that both patriot and loyalist ideas are given credence. There are a few pages of historical background given at the end of the book – some further reading would have been a nice idea.

Hannah says

I absolutly LOVED this book and it is a must read!

It is about Felicity Merrimen who is having a vacation with her family at there vacation house when they hear that people are attacking patriot farms. Her Father and his apprentis are away on buisness so she is home with her mother and two sibilings when a mysteriouse man comes to ask if he can look at there land as he is a person who study's plants. They give him their permission so he started lokking around. Felicity noticed that he was only recording things that he saw on Patriot farms. As it turnes out, Felicity catches him trying to steal Penny (her horse) and then sends a letter to her Father telling him to come right away because she was risking losing Pennt in order to save their farm. Her plan ends up failing and she is worried sick that she might lose Penny and she slept in the barn. To her amazment, instead of stealing Penny, he stole her Dead Grandfather's prized horse instead. She got on Penny and chased after him but when he saw her, he jumped off the horse and let go of the horse that he was leading and rann into the woods. As it ended up her father and Ben caught him and found the maps that held proof that he was a spy!

In the end Felicity was so happy that she saved their farm!

I strongly recommend reading this book!

Ciara says

i found this mystery pretty disappointing. i was reminded of the rebecca mystery about summer camp in which the big reveal is that one of rebecca's bunkmates is a polio survivor. it was just so obvious. i guess maybe a child would have been surprised...but even then, the foreshadowing was heavy-handed enough that i think a golden retriever could have figured it out.

with this book, i read it to a newborn baby & when i got to the part one page two where mr. haskall was introduced, the baby said, "i think mr. haskall is probably going to be the villain." well done, newborn baby. you are correct.

plot: felicity & her family are summering at king's creek plantation, owned by felicity's recently deceased grandfather. some neighbors come by for dinner with a man visiting from philadelphia (so he says), named mr. haskall. he claims to be in virginia for the first time ever, doing some naturalist research & heading further south to see his sister. felicity is confused because she feels she has seen him before, but she shrugs it off.

another neighbor visits & is sad because his prize horse has been stolen. there are rumors afoot that british spies are roaming the countryside to get the lay of the land so they can then burn down patriot plantations. some are stealing especially good horses & sending them to the british to use in the war. &...can you really not see where this is going? what about when mr. haskall takes a rather unusual interest in felicity's horse, penny, right after ten pages for foreshadowing about spies stealing horses? i read this book to a species of lichen growing in my backyard & it said, "yeah, i think mr. haskall is a spy."

there's a whole lot of cover about he's just a naturalist who is taking notes on plant species native to virginia, but he convinces felicity to tell him her super-secret method for calling penny, & to also show him the super-secret path from the plantation to yorktown, & it's obvious that the whole naturalist thing is cover so he can roam the patriot plantations & make secret maps. DUH.

felicity finally gets with the program when her friend ben visits & meets mr. haskall. ben recognizes him as one of the former guards of the loyalist governor of the colony. felicity realizes that she recognizes mr. haskall as well but couldn't place him without his uniform. i read this book to a golden retriever & it said, "man, you guys are pretty dumb."

felicity lays a trap for mr. haskall, using penny as bait. mr. haskall surprises her by stealing one of the other valuable horses on the plantation instead & felicity has to chase after him. all she can do is hope that she & mr. haskall come across her father on the path so that an actual adult can take over the arresting of the spy for the british. which is exactly what happens. felicity even figures out that mr. haskall is hiding his illicit maps in his shoe. felicity is somewhat crushed because she thought mr. haskall was her friend (& he proved that he was, kind of, by not stealing penny), but obviously it was more important for her to save her home from being, you know, razed to the ground by british troops. she observes that mr. haskall is a "good talker" & hopes that he will be able to talk his way out of getting into too much trouble. um. yeah. i bet that worked out really well for him.

Elizabeth says

This isn't really as good as the rest of the Felicity books. It's not very much of a mystery to me either & was somewhat boring until the last 3 or 4 chapters.

Felicity is visiting her grandfather's plantation for the summer (which they now own) and hears that British soldiers are burning down Patriot farms.

From chapter 3 it is kind of obvious who it is, Especially because they only have one suspect through the entire book.

I feel like this books is missing a lot of friends and family. It is nice to see Felicity and Nan's friendship grow more but Ben is only seen in chapter 8 and Felicity's father is only in the last chapter. Elizabeth is no where in this book.

Overall i think the book is okay. The other Felicity Mystery "Traitor in Williamsburg" was way more interesting in my opinion. This is the last book I'm reading in the series so I was expecting a little more.

Elijah S says

Great! Even though it's a girl book, well...I read everything! I can't help it. Especially mysteries. This is a great book for anyone to read, especially people who like learning about the early colonies of America.

Ashley says

An American Girl Felicity Mystery

Felicity is spending the summer of 1776 at her family's plantation, King's Creek, where she rides her beloved horse, Penny, everyday. But soon Felicity hears news that British soldiers are burning Patriot farms and stealing their animals. Could the British threaten King's Creek... and Penny?

I love reading the American Girl mysteries. They're fun, quick and easy to read. Each chapter gets deeper in to the mystery and it's not solved until almost the end of the book.
