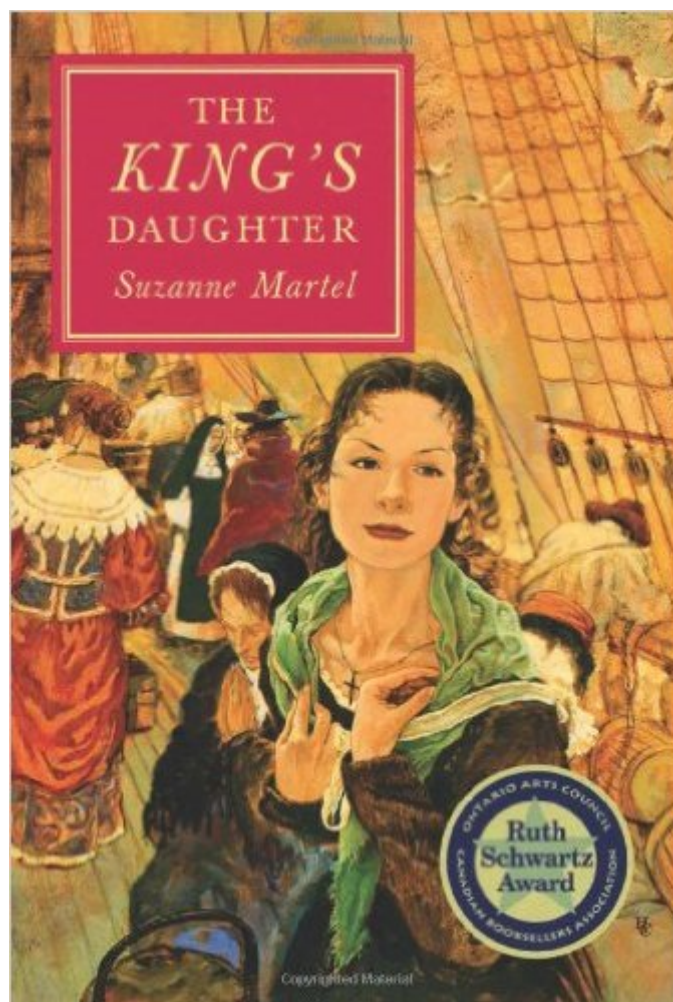


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# The King's Daughter



## Synopsis

Winner of the Ruth Schwartz Award Jeanne Chatel has always dreamed of adventure. So when the eighteen-year-old orphan is summoned to sail from France to the wilds of North America to become a king's daughter and marry a French settler, she doesn't hesitate. Her new husband is not the dashing military man she has dreamed of, but a trapper with two small children who lives in a small cabin in the woods. With her husband away trapping much of the time, Jeanne faces danger daily, but the bravery and spirit that brought her to this wild place never fail her, and she soon learns to be truly at home in her new land.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is one of my favorite books. I was completely obsessed with it for about a month, which is a record for me. It's terrific. Best for young adults ages 12-16, *The King's Daughter* by Suzanne Martel tells the story of Jeanne, an eighteen-year-old French orphan. She travels to Canada as a King's Daughter, passage paid by the king so that she might marry one of the settlers. By chance she is married to Simon, a young man with two children. His previous wife Aimee was killed by the Iroquios and he needed someone to look after his son and daughter. It takes time and patience, but Jeanne comes to love Simon and Simon comes to love Jeanne. They both struggle with doubts about each other throughout the book until everything is resolved at the end. There are plenty of various adventures (Jeanne travelling to the nearest settlement as a man, for example, or the risk of Iroquois attacks) which make the book very exciting. The story is touching and fun, and historical fiction buffs will love it, as will anyone. *The King's Daughter* was translated from French to English, I believe. Since I cannot speak or read French, I was delighted to find an English version at my

bookstore. I liked this book very, VERY MUCH and I would encourage ANYONE to buy it.

The King's Daughter is the cute version of les filles de roi experience, the Pippi Longstocking-Betsy-Tacy-Laura Ingalls take on events. The natives are not always portrayed in the best light, which is too bad, because the writer could have really developed a few of the native characters we see through the story. She does however touch on what it means to be a woman, married, unmarried, during this period and how this affects the protagonists agency and personhood, which I really appreciated. Sometimes the 70's missed a few things, sometimes they got more right than current works are doing. Overall a well-told story, with likable characters. If you want a darker, academically researched novel about another fictional fille de roi, try the Bride of France.

I've owned this book since I was about 8, and just recently reread it for the millionth time (I am 24 now). Jeanne, the heroine, is compelling and attractive, as is her husband, Simon. Their romance is a little shallow, but this \*is\* a child's book. The vivid descriptions of life as a settler in Canada are wonderful, and the portrayal of interactions between the French and the native tribes is not horribly biased. The whole range of behaviour in the French, the Hurons, the Algonquins and the Iroquois is explored, with the message being that people, regardless of their skin, are individuals. All races have good and bad people. The language is somewhat stilted, as is predictable in a translation -- I should probably read it in French some day to see what I'm missing! I thoroughly recommend this book to girls ages 10 to 14.

This was a good book. I have read it in both french and english and have had many english/french class discussions on it. Summary: Jeanne, orphan girl of france. She is chosen like many girls to go to New France to help populate it. These chosen girls are on a mission for france, they are suitably named "The Kings' Daughters". Jeanne marries an intense man and becomes an instant 19-year old mother taking care of her new hubby's children who she adores. Jeanne has her encounters and adventures. I found the book cliched. Jeanne is so overly cliched and her romance is a bit too. There was little character development. It is obvious Martel is biased between the relations of the French and the Iroquois but she exaggerates their anger and fury a bit too much. The language is simple due to translation but if you do read the french version, the vocabulary is better. The one true thing I like about the book is that, it's interesting. The plot is just her and her adventures. She has many adventures which keeps you reading. It's modestly historically accurate. I still recommend it if

you wish to be interested but it would be better for the preteens.

This well written book is a story about Jeanne Chatel who is orphaned at 10 and is taken into a convent, as was the custom in the late 1660's and early 70's. But a convent is no place for the boundless energy that Jeanne has. So when she is invited to go to New France (Qubec) to be a wife to a man there, she hastily agrees, her sense of adventure rousing inside of her, and after 8 years living in a dull convent she was ready for some excitement. So she leaves France. When she arrives she expects to find a gallant military man but instead a hunter/architect comes to pick her up. The story of Jeanne's courage and bravery in New France and with the new family she comes to love and care for is truly worth reading.

After learning so much in school about Quebec history it was really cool to read this book. It's exciting and interesting and it gives you a sense of life at that time. I want to read it in french also.

This is a great story about life in New France. This story expertly ties a young woman's hardships in the wilderness to her joys as well as her struggle to love her husband who she hardly knows when she marries him. All together thrilling and marvelously written story.

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