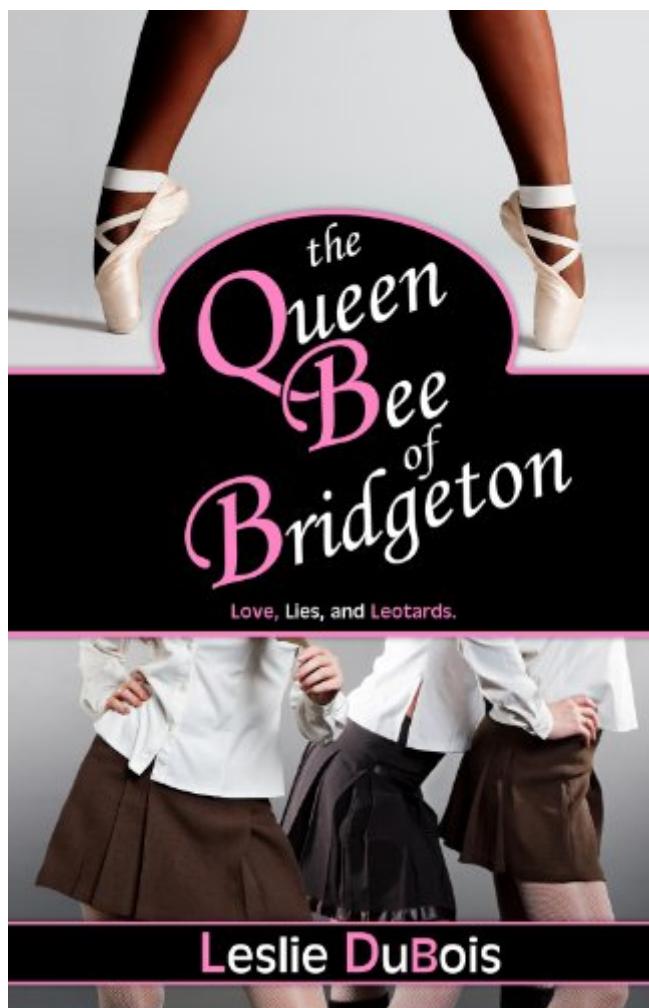


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The Queen Bee Of Bridgeton (Dancing Dream #1)



Synopsis

When fifteen-year-old Sonya Garrison is accepted into the prestigious Bridgeton Academy, she soon discovers that rich girls are just as dangerous as the thugs in her home of Venton Heights. Maybe more so. After catching the eye of the star, white basketball player and unwittingly becoming the most popular girl in school, she earns the hatred of the three most ruthless and vindictive girls at Bridgeton. Can she defeat the reigning high school royalty? Or will they succeed in ruining her lifelong dream of becoming a world class dancer?

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed The Queen Bee of Bridgeton! The whole mean girl, high school drama, cattiness did go a bit too far for my liking, but other than that, this was a wonderful, refreshing read! Sonya and her sister Sasha have grown up in the ghetto, but both girls got scholarships to the prestigious Bridgeton school. Sonya's was an art scholarship because she's a ballerina. She lives and breathes dance, and has worked her butt off to get where she is. So when the mysterious B- Brigade targets Sonya and her dream, she either has to stand up for herself and lose the person closest to her, or

lose out on going to a dance academy in Rome. The Queen Bee of Bridgeton was great and has an amazingly positive representation of African Americans in a bad situation. I could totally relate to Sonya feeling out of place in her mostly white school, but also not fitting in at her previous mostly black school. Before she was told she wasn't black enough because she doesn't use slang or listen to rap music, but now she sticks out because there are only a handful of black students at Bridgeton. Students also confuse her for a sister a lot, because hey, black people look the same! Sonya doesn't let it get her down though. She is who she is and that's okay. Even her gang banger neighbor had depth! The plot does get a bit ridiculous. I'm generally not a fan of secret societies, which is essentially what the B- Brigade is. We do learn who they are early on, but I find it hard to believe that all of this has been happening for decades at this school. What those girls do is awful and illegal! And what's it for?! They're just jealous and have to ruin people to make themselves feel better? They try to get Sonya expelled because the basketball star, Will, asks her out! He's a nice guy and doesn't want them, and he and Sonya are totally adorable together, and those girls can't take it! Ugh. I do recommend The Queen Bee of Bridgeton. Sonya has a refreshing voice and POV, even if she is really naive at times. She's super optimistic and doesn't let where she lives define her. She knows her mother is trying hard, so Sonya and her sister do what they can to better their lives too, which is great. While the plot is quite over-dramatic, I loved the romance and dance elements and do want to know what comes next for Sonya when she gets to Rome!

Alright I'm not going to sugar coat this too much. I did have a little bit of a hard time with it at the beginning, I thought it was a little odd to start the book off like it did. I was confused but caught on then it changed and finally led up to current events. In short- It starts from the middle (story line), then goes to the beginning (to understand how we just got to the middle we have to go back to the beginning of how it all started) then goes back to where we were at the beginning. I hope that made sense to you and I didn't confuse you. Let me tell you, it was a little frustrating for a book to do that and not really indicate that it was leading to the next point. I just had to assume that at some point in the near or far future I would get to point A again. I wish this was explained more so that I was more prepared instead of just continuous reading along to finally figure out that I did indeed make it back to point A. So with that only drawback, I thought the book was REALLY good! I actually loved it. So much that I am going to purchase the other books for this series if or when they are out (I haven't looked so I hope there are more). Overall the characters become one with you and the story line is just amazing. I haven't really read anything like this so it was really cool to experience it and I found that I did have a lot in common with the main character Sony! I like how the Author felt the need to

add some not so nice moments in the book and turn it into something positive and upbeat or just left it unknown. I was really iffy about Will from the start but was surprised on how the story line unfolded. It was a SHOCKER!!! But I think that by putting things like that in the book, it just makes it what it is... GOOD!

I am an ardent fan of Leslie's interracial books. The last couple of books have left me yearning for more. See, when I finish a book I want to see all the ends (eventually) tied up because I read to transport my mind and to leave me with an incomplete story really upsets me. This book/series has not disappointed so far. In this book, Leslie takes a page from Gossip Girl and mixes in a little Center Stage and then adds Mean Girls to the top. I downloaded this book free from .com on 3/4/2012 and I am kicking myself for taking so long to read it. After I finished this book, I immediately went out to purchase the next two books. I stayed up all night to finish this book and while I was tired at work the next day-it was so worth it. I recommended this book to my "free book addicted" cohort who then recommended it to her sister who stayed up all night to finish. I will rate books but it is very infrequent that I write a review unless compelled. This is definitely a must read!

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