

THE PRINCESS DIARIES

By Wallace Shawn

Mia: Hi, um...hello. I'm Mia. Um, it's stopped raining! I'm really no good at speech-making. Normally, I get so nervous that I faint or run away, or sometimes I even get sick. But you really didn't need to know that...But I'm not so afraid anymore. See, my father helped me. Earlier this evening I had every intention of giving up my claim to the throne. And my mother helped me, by telling me it was OK, and by supporting me like she has for my entire life. But then I wondered how I'd feel after abdicating my role as Princess of Genovia. Would I feel relieved, or would I feel sad? And then I realized how many stupid times a day I use the word 'I'. And probably all I ever do is think about myself. And how lame is that when there's like seven billion other people out there on the planet, and...sorry, I'm going too fast. But then I thought, if I cared about the other seven billion out there, instead of just me, that's probably a much better use of my time. See, if I were Princess of Genovia, then my thoughts and the thoughts of people smarter than me would be much better heard, and just maybe those thoughts could be turned into actions. So this morning when I woke up, I was Mia Thermopolis. But now I choose to be forever more, Amerlia Mignonette Thermopolis Renaldi, Princess of Genovia.