Thank you so much for downloading this sampler exclusively for my newsletter subscribers! You will find an excerpt of my chick lit/sweet romance novel *Fooling Around With Cinderella*, as well as an interview with me, a character interview, and a couple of articles relating to the royal theme.

*What happens when the glass slippers pinch Cinderella’s toes?* When Jaine Andersen proposes a new marketing role to the local amusement park, general manager Dylan Callahan charms her into filling Cinderella’s glass slippers for the summer. Her reign transforms Jaine’s ordinary life into chaos that would bewilder a fairy godmother. Secretly dating her bad boy boss, running wedding errands for her ungrateful sisters, and defending herself from the park’s resident villain means Jaine needs lots more than a comfy pair of shoes to restore order in her kingdom. First in the Storybook Valley series, a blend of sweet romance, chick lit, and fairy tale fun.
Dylan scrutinized Jaine, arms folded across his royal blue shirt with the Storybook Valley logo stamped over the left in white block letters. “Do you wear contacts?”

“I have plenty of media contacts. Wait. Did you say wear contacts? You mean instead of these?” Jaine fingered the earpiece of her gold-rimmed glasses.

“Right. Contact lenses.”

She gave a nervous chuckle. “I scheduled a consultation in college, but was too squeamish to insert the lens. I was more comfortable in glasses.”

Was she really justifying her vision enhancement choices to her prospective new boss? Maybe he intended to discuss medical benefits. Or did he think she looked nerdy? What was the saying? Guys don’t make passes at girls who wear glasses? Not that she wanted him to make a pass even if he was hot.

“How blind are you without glasses?” Dylan persisted.

“You wouldn’t want to drive with me.”

“How about if you’re walking around a building? Are you in danger of hurting yourself?”

This interview had taken the Mad Hatter Freeway from Fairy Tale Land into Wonderland where nothing made a damn bit of sense. Did this guy have a glasses fetish, like those weirdoes with shoe fetishes?

“I should be okay. I take them off for special occasions.” In fact, Jaine’s older sister Bree, who was getting married in August, remarked just last week, “You are losing the glasses for my wedding pictures, right?”

What the hell. She’d be a good sport and hope Dylan would be so grateful to pick the brain of a real, flesh and blood, bespectacled person that he would appoint her marketing director. Jaine removed her glasses and the fine details of her surroundings fuzzed. She nodded toward the framed print hanging on a side wall, the picture a wash of symbols and colors. “I can tell that’s a park map, but the words and images smear together.”

And that was myopia in a nutshell. Jaine adjusted her glasses back into place so she could see his reaction. Dylan examined her with such intensity that a blush stained her cheeks. She patted her blonde French braid, in case stray strands were straggling out.

“Here’s the situation,” Dylan said. “I took over the general manager position a few months ago. I’m evaluating possible changes and researching how other theme parks run. My grandfather and father have worked with a marketing firm for years to create our brochures, billboards, print, and radio ads.”

Jaine’s shoulders caved, imperceptible to him, but it felt as if her whole body was sinking.

No fairy tale job ending for her.

“I think we could produce most of those materials in-house,” Dylan continued, and her breath bottled up in her chest. “The firm is expensive and I’m not impressed with their efforts. Summer is our busiest season and I’m not ready to implement a full-time marketing position, but I could hire you in that role effective November second, when the park closes and I can devote more time to your training. Most of our positions are seasonal, but the key spots are year-round.”
Jaine exhaled. He was offering her a job in her field, promoting a family attraction that once enhanced her childhood. Plus, it gave her an excuse to limit her babysitting availability without guilt. Her sister had received free childcare long enough; she could arrange an alternative.

“Besides the PR and education programs, you’d help to expand our group sales efforts,” Dylan went on. “You would invite companies to consider us for their picnics and outings and work with our catering department to make sure the event goes smoothly. Another responsibility would be to promote our new online corporate ticket program where businesses can give discounted tickets to their employees. I’m in the middle of redesigning our website and you’d update content. If everything goes well, there’s advancement potential. I foresee expanding the marketing department in a year or two.”

An opportunity to shimmy up the corporate beanstalk! Before retirement, her father worked as vice president of an advertising agency, and her over-achiever siblings were always shooting through the ranks of their respective jobs. Now she could latch onto her own chance at success. . .except with her unemployment money running out soon, November seemed far away.

“I’d love to accept your offer.” Jaine hesitated. “It’s just . . . is it possible to start earlier?”

A hint of a smile slipped across his mouth, contrasting with the furrow grooving his forehead. “I hoped you’d say that. We have a temporary seasonal position that needs filling. It’s thirty-five hours per week and I could add on another five hours to spend on marketing. After Labor Day, we’ll expand your marketing hours and limit the temporary position to weekends.”

Between the furrow and the cautious note in his voice, Jaine was getting a bad feeling, like Hansel and Gretel must have felt when standing before the oven. “What kind of temporary position?”

And how did it involve glasses?

Dylan wheeled his chair around and pointed to the castle poster. She followed his thumb toward the girl in an elegant white and gold gown. “I need a Cinderella.”

Find all the retailers here: http://stacyjuba.com/blog/fooling-around-with-cinderella/
How did you get the idea for *Fooling Around With Cinderella*?
A few years ago, my family and I were at a fairy tale theme park. We had just gone to visit Cinderella. I think Cinderella was on my brain as a couple weeks earlier, we had all gone on a princess lunch cruise. Anyway, I stopped short in the middle of the theme park and my husband stared at me. He said, “You have an idea for a book, don’t you?” He recognized that gleam in my eye. This idea had popped into my head about a reluctant theme park Cinderella. Details were coming so fast that I was scribbling on napkins at the hotel in the middle of the night. And *Fooling Around with Cinderella* was born!

How did you research the book?
I watched videos and read blog posts and chats presented by former theme park princesses and theme park staff members, read books written by former theme park employees, watched training videos and recruitment videos for large theme parks, and studied their employee handbooks, listened to radio interviews of theme park management, and also did some research into the Catskills, where the book takes place. I have a binder filled with information. I learned that a lot of theme parks have employee incentive programs, as they want their employees to be in a good mood and make their guests happy. They also hold lots of special employee events, such as cookouts and Rides Night. Those are details I never would have thought of on my own.

How did you choose the title? Has it been the title from the very beginning?
I chose the title, *Fooling Around With Cinderella*, because of the double meaning of “fooling around.” Dylan Callahan, the young general manager of the theme park, has been dealing with a string of incompetent Cinderellas and is tired of fooling around with this job position. Since it is a romantic comedy, “fooling around” has a double meaning, as he will become romantically involved with his latest Cinderella, Jaine.

What is your character's family like?
Jaine has two annoying sisters, twins Bree and Shauna. Bree is a high-powered attorney and Bridezilla with an upcoming wedding. Shauna, a divorced single mom, relies on Jaine for babysitting. In fact, the twins rely on Jaine for all their errands.

What can readers expect next from you?
I am working on the second book in the series, *Prancing Around With Sleeping Beauty*. It follows Dylan’s sister, Rory (short for Aurora), who is a dance instructor. I am also working on a short story prequel to *Fooling Around With Cinderella, The Cinderella Curse*. Readers can also expect future books in the series revolving around some of the minor characters they will meet, including Krystal (Red Riding Hood), Tiara, and Wendy.
Five Princess Tips From Jaine

- Watch Audrey Hepburn in the movie Roman Holiday in desperate hope of picking up Audrey’s regal bearing. It may be depressing as you’ll never be as regal as Audrey, but you might learn a thing or two.

- If your own hair isn’t lovely enough, then you will require a wig or hair extensions. A classic blonde Gibson girl wig is a popular princess choice, with its fluffy upsweep style and soft curls across the forehead.

- A pair of killer shoes is essential. And unfortunately, killer isn’t an exaggeration. These shoes will hurt and cause blisters. Jaine wears translucent pumps that resemble glass slippers. When no one is around, she kicks off the shoes and slips her feet into a pair of flip-flops.

- No one ever tells princesses about animation lessons. Once you look the part, now you have to act the part. This means you must enhance your role through nonverbal communication, also known as animation. For example, when waving to your subjects, pretend that you are screwing in a lightbulb. Recite this mantra: elbow, elbow, wrist, wrist.

- When signing autographs, your signature must say, “I am a princess.” Not literally, but your handwriting must possess a certain beauty and flourish. This requires endless lessons and may lead to carpal tunnel syndrome.
Interview with Jaine and Dylan!

How did you first meet your writer?

Jaine: A few summers ago she was at a theme park with her family. They had just gone to visit Cinderella. Suddenly as Stacy was walking, she stopped short and the concept of the book flashed into her mind. We met her later that night when she was scribbling on paper scraps in the hotel.

Did you ever think that your life would end up being in a book?

Jaine: No, I didn’t think my life was interesting enough.
Dylan: I come from a crazy family who names their kids after fairy tale characters. So yeah, I’m not surprised.

What are your favorite scenes in your book: the action, the dialog or the romance?

Jaine: I love the scenes where Dylan and I tease each other. And the scene where we go on rides with my niece was a lot of fun.
Dylan: The kissing scenes.

What do you like to do when you are not being actively read somewhere?

Jaine: Reading, taking walks, playing with my cat Willow, and hanging out with my niece.
Dylan: I like skiing, snowboarding, and having my dog Snow tag along after me on hikes. I’m going to teach Jaine how to ski one of these days.

If you could rewrite anything in your book, what would it be?

Jaine: I’d write out the villain. She really messed things up for us.

Do you like the way the book ended?

Dylan: Oh yeah!

Would you be interested in a sequel, if your writer was so inclined?

Dylan: I hear she’s writing a sequel about my sister Rory, who was named after Aurora. Prancing Around With Sleeping Beauty. I, for one, am interested to know what she sees in her jerk of a boyfriend, so yeah, I’d read the sequel.
Jaine: I have a marketing idea for the park that could involve Rory. I would love a chance to make that happen.
What do you do for a living?

Dylan: I’m the new general manager of the Storybook Valley theme park, a family-owned business. I took over from my dad.
Jaine: I’m the new marketing coordinator, but Dylan isn’t quite ready to make it a full-time position yet. For the next few months, I’m also Cinderella! It’s just temporary until the park closes for the season.

What do you wear when you go to sleep?

Jaine: Just sweats or light pajamas. It is a relief to wear something comfortable, after being in a ball gown, tiara and glass slippers all day!

What is your vivid memory of your mother and father?

Jaine: I remember them taking my sisters and me to Storybook Valley when I was a kid. My sisters are twins and always together, so I would hang around with my parents. They never made me feel like a third wheel. Once my dad spent a fortune trying to win prizes for all of us at a carnival game.

Dylan: I remember my parents’ expressions when they found out I sneaked into the park at night with a bunch of friends and had a keg party on the ferry. I thought I would be grounded for the rest of my life.

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