



2008

# The Kingdom of Strange

Larysa Bordner

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

---

### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Bordner, Larysa (2008) "The Kingdom of Strange," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 29 : Iss. 1 , Article 10.  
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol29/iss1/10>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

Klinger, Shula. *The Kingdom of Strange*. Marshall Cavendish, 2008. ISBN 9780761453956.  
\$16.99. 298 p.

Reviewer: Larysa Bordner

Reading Level: Young Adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Contemporary Realistic Fiction;

Subject: Authorship--Juvenile fiction; Interpersonal relations--Juvenile fiction; Self-perception--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Thisbe is an aspiring author who encounters some unexpected speed bumps when her English teacher assigns a new project. Mr. Oliver wants the class to explore what it means to be or to have an audience. As part of the assignment, Thisbe makes a new online friend named Iphis, who goes to a nearby school. Iphis soon becomes the audience for Thisbe's writing, and from there, things begin spinning as Thisbe tries to understand her body, people around her, life plans, and her writing. Thisbe contemplates where the line actually lies between writing and living for herself, or writing and living for an audience — all in her own strange kingdom of words.

*The Kingdom of Strange* is the story of a teenage girl trying to navigate her way through high school, but it has a slightly different feel because it is formatted as journal entries and emails. Klinger approaches serious subjects with Thisbe's sense of humor and Grandma Edna's older wisdom, leaving the reader laughing and pondering simultaneously. The content is fresh and uplifting, making this a suitable book for any young adults who are looking to escape for a while from their own worlds into Thisbe's.

Volume 29, no. 1 (Sep/Oct 2008)