



2008

Storyteller

Madeleine Cottle

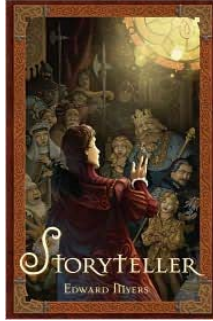
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Myers, Edward. *Storyteller*. Clarion Books, 2008. ISBN 9780618695416. \$16.00. 283 p.

Reviewer: Madeleine Cottle

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Fantasy fiction;

Subject: Storytelling--Juvenile literature; Kings, queens, rulers, etc.--Juvenile literature; Fairy tales--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

"For what is a kingdom but stories? Stories about struggles of the past. Stories about the promise of the future. Stories about the love between the rulers and the ruled." (p. 20). Jack is an ordinary farm boy who likes to tell stories. He tells them to everyone who listens, and those who do not. When he leaves to seek his fortune, he encounters many adventures, love, betrayal, deceit, tyrant thirteen-year-old kings, and eventually a happy ending.

The story is easy to understand, and gives a little challenge to the reader. The plot is straightforward, with no love triangles, or other complications. There is a major theme of selfishness and how it accomplishes nothing. The foreshadowing used is noticeable enough for even young readers to recognize. Readers may be irritated by the characters' lack of depth. They think and do, but a little shallowly. Overall, an entertaining novel for the beginner.

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