



2009

### Mistwood

Laurien Clay

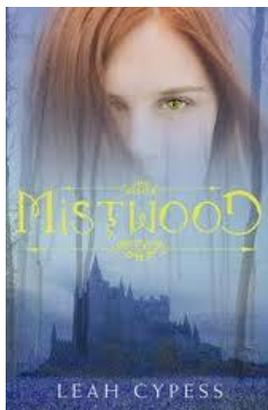
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Cypess, Leah. *Mistwood*. Greenwillow Books, 2010. ISBN 9780061956997.  
\$16.99. 320 p.

Reviewer: Laurien Clay

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy fiction;

Subject: Kings, queens, rulers, etc.--Juvenile fiction; Magic--Juvenile fiction; Loyalty--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Isabel remembers nothing before Prince Rokan claimed her from the Mistwood as his Shifter, a powerful and unearthly being always destined to protect the royal family. Rokan needs her help from the unseen forces and intrigues that work against his crown. Isabel struggles to protect him while dealing with returning memories, losing her powers, feeling unnaturally human, and worst of all--discovering the secret that will not only test her loyalty to the crown, but her heart.

Cypess, a first time author, deeply delves into what it means to know oneself and to be human in this tale of political intrigue, magic, and loyalty. The story is captivating and engrossing at its best, but incoherent at its worst. The reader is easily lost in all the courtly plotting and politics as the prose jumps from one thought to the next with no interim explanation. In spite of this, the reader is able to put together a compelling story of self-discovery based on what scraps of plot the prose does dole out.

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