



2010

A Conspiracy of Kings

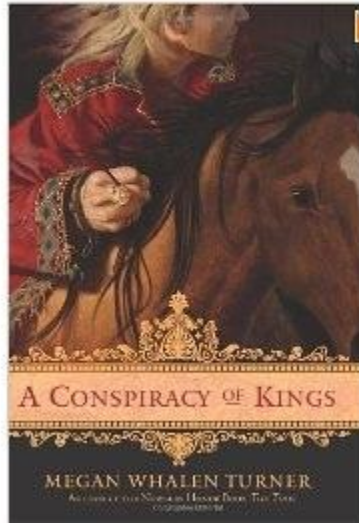
Ruth-Anne Brown

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Turner, Megan Whalen. *A Conspiracy of Kings*. HarperCollins, 2010. ISBN 9780061870934. \$16.99. 316 p.

Reviewer: Ruth-Anne Brown

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Adventure story;

Subject: Kings, queens, rulers, etc.--Juvenile fiction; Princes--Juvenile fiction; Adventure and adventurers--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Sophos is the young heir to his uncle's kingdom, Sounis. His sweet temper and habit of yielding easily make him unfit to rule. One day Sophos is captured by a rebel baron, Hanaktos, who plans to use him as a puppet king. Sophos escapes Hanaktos and travels to the neighboring land of Attolia where his friend Eugenides is king. He hears the news of his uncle's death and so becomes king of a rioting country.

After swearing allegiance to the King of Attolia, Sophos goes back to his own country to win his barons' loyalty. He is captured by a Mede ambassador, Akretenesh, who claims to only keep Sophos as a guest. When Sophos goes to meet the barons to be officially elected as their king, they vote for a regent instead. Taking a hidden pistol from his coat, Sophos wounds Hanaktos and is forced to kill Akretenesh. He discovers that ten thousand Mede troops have landed at Sounis. Sophos defeats them with the aid of reinforcements from Attolia.

Turner once again produces an enthralling tale with her fourth book of the series *A Conspiracy of Kings*. The plot has mystery, character growth, and romance. Readers should start with the previous novels to fully grasp the many intricate characters and their motivations.

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