



TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

The Traitor's Game By Jennifer A. Nielsen Reviewed by Arnold Cuessi

Name: Arnold Cuessi

Grade: 7

Book Title: The Traitor's Game

Author: Jennifer A. Nielsen

Number of Pages: 388

Rating (on a scale of 1-5): 4/5

Character List:

- **Kestra Dallisor:** Kestra is a 16-year-old girl who comes from a wealthy family with an unloving father, Henry Dallisor. She was kidnapped when she was young and sent to the Lava Fields for her "protection". When coming back from exile with her two loving servants, Celia and Darrow, she is attacked by the rebel Coracks. Here, her fight against Lord Endrick begins.
- **Simon:** Simon was a servant for the Dallisors. He was a victim of Kestra and her father's wrath. He then joins the Coracks, where he soon finds himself facing his childhood friend and newfound foe, Kestra.
- **Captain Tenger:** Captain Tenger is the leader of the rebel Coracks and is determined to kill the leader of many kingdoms, Lord Endrick. He seeks to find the Olden Blade, which is said to be the only thing that will kill Lord Endrick.
- **Lord Endrick:** Lord Endrick is an immortal who has more magic than anyone. He has claimed that the Olden Blade, the one thing that can kill him, is a myth. He wishes to take over all kingdoms and does not care how he does it.

Review:

Kestra Dallisor has always lived her life as wealthy, but not always loved. Though her mother loved her more than anything in the universe, she died when Kestra was young. Her father never truly loved her and sent Kestra to an isolated desert for her "protection." Three years later, she finally comes home from exile. On the road back, she is ambushed by Coracks, rebels determined to end an immortal tyrant's reign of fear. She then meets her childhood friend and now foe, Simon. Their relationship makes everything more awkward when Captain Tenger, leader of the Coracks, orders Simon, Kestra, and another Corack on a Journey to find the Olden Blade -- the only blade capable of killing Lord Endrick. Their feelings for each other will all change on this quest to find the Olden Blade. More than anything, this quest leads Kestra to discover who she is truly is and her responsibility to end Lord Endrick.

In this mixture of comedy, action, romance, and mystery, *The Traitor's Game* is about people who try to run from the past despite being confronted by its ghost. Author Jennifer A. Nielsen takes her readers on Kestra Dallisor's adventure as she learns about her origin story. We learn alongside Kestra who is a friend and who is a traitor. In this story there is something for readers of all ages, especially teens: action, bickering, romance, and the great lure of mystery. Yet, the

ending may leave a little too much mystery for some people. Despite this, the plot does come to a full loop and entertains throughout the entire the book.