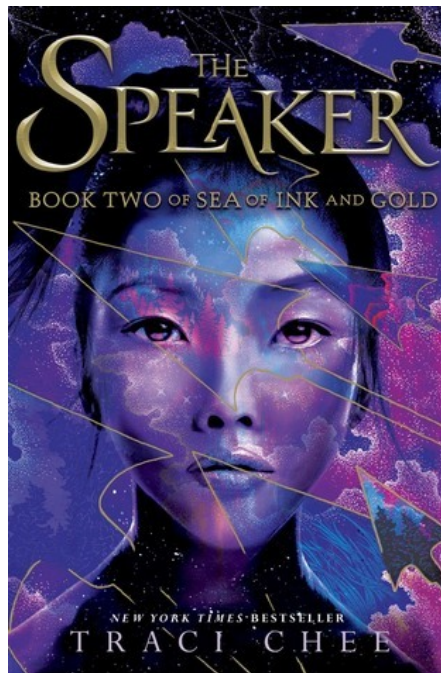




The Speaker

Traci Chee

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The Speaker

Traci Chee

The Speaker Traci Chee

Having barely escaped the clutches of the Guard, Sefia and Archer are back on the run, slipping into the safety of the forest to tend to their wounds and plan their next move. Haunted by painful memories, Archer struggles to overcome the trauma of his past with the impressors, whose cruelty plagues him whenever he closes his eyes. But when Sefia and Archer happen upon a crew of impressors in the wilderness, Archer finally finds a way to combat his nightmares: by hunting impressors and freeing the boys they hold captive.

With Sefia's help, Archer travels across the kingdom of Deliene rescuing boys while she continues to investigate the mysterious Book and secrets it contains. But the more battles they fight, the more fights Archer craves, until his thirst for violence threatens to transform him from the gentle boy Sefia knows to a grim warrior with a cruel destiny. As Sefia begins to unravel the threads that connect Archer's fate to her parents' betrayal of the Guard so long ago, she and Archer must figure out a way to subvert the Guard's plans before they are ensnared in a war that will pit kingdom against kingdom, leaving their future and the safety of the entire world hanging in the balance.

The Speaker Details

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Author : Traci Chee

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From Reader Review The Speaker for online ebook

Jessica Cluess says

An enthralling sequel to THE READER. Sefia and Archer are on the run and fall in with a band of kids just like Archer: forced killers with a score to settle. As the group embarks on a quest of retribution, Archer's in danger of losing himself to his own dark impulses. The writing is mouth-watering, the world endlessly inventive, the emotion real. Sefia and Archer's romance picks up steam, and there is, of course, more of my favorite, Captain Reed. I love everything about this series, and I think you will, too.

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

The girl is back. The boy is back. The book is back. The magic is back.

*I have to add that these two books in this series are freaking gorgeous in person and have the deckle edges. I love to pet them =)

Argo flipped him onto his back, straddled his chest, and raised a hand to strike.

In that moment, the nameless boy understood: This was the end. He was going to die.

He would cease to breathe. Cease to be. Cease to hurt. It would be easy.

But he didn't want to die.

And knowing that, knowing he wanted to live, however hard it was, however much it hurt, something opened up inside of him, something hidden and ugly and powerful.

Argo slowed.

Everything slowed.

.....

Summoning her Sight again, she flicked her fingers. In the Illuminated world, the threads of light tightened and sprang back like bowstrings, sending ripples through the bands of gold. Ten yards away, on the slope leading toward Cascarra, a dead branch cracked.

Sefia and Archer are back and they make a bad ass team. Poor Archer is plagued with nightmares of his past, what he was forced to be, a killer.

Sefia has the book and reading the future and trying to find help right some wrongs her parents did and together they will help many.

Sefia and Archer are going around helping to free kidnapped boys that were forced to become killers or be killed themselves. They are also trying to put a stop to the evil people that are doing this. Some bloody battles ensue.

I don't want to say any more because I'm afraid I will leak a spoiler!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I loved this book even more than the first book and I loved it a lot too! I really hope they can accomplish what they are setting out to do in the next book. So far they have made a step in the right direction. I hope!
tiny sob

Happy Reading!

Mel ♥

MY BLOG: Melissa Martin's Reading List

Coral González says

Tras escapar de la guardia Sefia y Archer deciden no sólo huir de esta organización sino combatirla para ello deciden acabar con las cuadrillas de instructores que reclutan a muchachos cómo Archer para Serakeen. Con la ayuda de otros jóvenes empiezan esta misión, pero con cada pelea Archer cambia lo que preocupa a Sefia pues piensa que es el chico que decidirá la guerra roja del que habla el libro. Mientras, el capitán Reed sigue tras la búsqueda del Tesoro del Rey.

La verdad es que este segundo libro me ha gustado mucho. En él conocemos mucho mejor el funcionamiento de La Guardia, las divisiones que la forman y sus planes. También me ha gustado ver la evolución de Archer, como lidia con sus miedos y sus pesadillas, y como Sefia quiere protegerlo a toda costa, incluso sacrificándose a sí misma. Otra cosa que me ha gustado es la incorporación de los nuevos personajes y sobre todo los enigmas ocultos en el libro; así como la manera en la que la autora conecta los diferentes fragmentos de la historia para que al final todo cobre sentido de una manera que te consigue sorprender. Estoy deseando conocer cómo acaba esta maravillosa historia para saber si Sefia y Archer pueden derrotar al destino y al propio libro, o si por el contrario como dice el libro lo que está escrito siempre termina por suceder.

Juan Manuel Sarmiento says

Con la adición de nuevos personajes, La Oradora llega a ser más completa y oscura que La Lectora, con suficientes giros para no permitírnos saber lo que iba a ocurrir después. Y no será hasta el final donde se nos den respuesta a muchas preguntas que se nos formulan a lo largo del libro.

Reseña completa en [THE BEST READ YET BLOG](#)

Aleshanee says

Das Inselreich Kelanna ist in fünf Reiche aufgeteilt. Um die Macht über all diese Ländereien zu erhalten hat "die Wache" einen perfiden Plan ausgearbeitet, der sich auch nach und nach zu Erfüllen scheint. Mittendrin durchkreuzt jedoch Sefia diese Pläne, das Mädchen mit dem unscheinbaren Schatz in ihren Händen, einem Buch, dessen Geheimnis sie endlich entschlüsseln konnte. Das war nicht leicht, denn in Kelanna kennt niemand das schriftliche Wort. Geschichten wandern von Mund zu Mund, von Dorf zu Dorf und so gerät vieles leicht in Vergessenheit.

Um dem zu Entkommen hat Käpt'n Lees auf dem Schiff Strömung der Zuversicht einen heroischen Lebenswandel gewählt, um in den Köpfen der Menschen immer in Erinnerung zu bleiben. Doch die neuen Entwicklungen bringen seine Absicht ins Wanken.

Hauptsächlich geht es in diesem zweiten Teil aber um Archer; einen Charakter der auf eine der schlimmsten Arten missbraucht und damit verändert wurde und damit alles, was er einmal war, zurücklassen musste. Welche Intentionen hinter all dem stecken, wird uns in diesem Band erzählt ...

Meine Meinung

Zuerst möchte ich kurz auf das Cover eingehen, was entgegen dem ersten Band in Gold nun in Silber glänzt und auch wieder wunderschön anzusehen ist. Aber auch hier wurde unter dem Schutzumschlag ein Symbol versteckt, dieses Mal mit einem wunderschönen Spruch, der in der Geschichte natürlich auch noch seine Bedeutung finden wird.

Gleich zu Beginn erfährt man auf einem handgeschriebenen Zettel den verräterischen Plan der "Wache", die durch den Roten Krieg die fünf Inselstaaten einen und damit Macht über ganz Kelanna erlangen wollen. Im ersten Teil war es ja noch sehr offen, worum es überhaupt geht - hier wirkt die ganze Handlung zielgerichteter und die Hintergründe zu den Beweggründen der einzelnen Charaktere werden mehr beleuchtet. Das reicht sogar in die Vergangenheit und Zukunft, denn die Frage nach einem festgeschriebenen Schicksal und der Möglichkeit, dieses zu ändern, bestimmt das Leben aller Figuren.

"Bei den schwierigen Fragen gibt es kein Richtig. Da gibt es nur das, womit du am besten leben kannst." S. 307

Im Mittelpunkt steht unter anderem hauptsächlich Archer, dessen jüngste Vergangenheit so schlimme Narben auf seiner Seele hinterlassen hat, dass er kaum mehr weiß, wer er tatsächlich ist. Ich muss dazu sagen dass es teilweise sehr brutal ist, sei es mit roher Gewalt, aber auch mit den Gefühlen, mit denen jeder in der Geschichte umgehen muss. Denn wenn man um sein Leben kämpft, wenn der Tod nur davon abhängt, was du zu tun bereit bist, ist kaum zu begreifen, zu was man alles fähig ist. Kein leichtes Thema und dadurch auch oftmals ein sehr bedrückendes Bild, dennoch hat es die Autorin geschafft, ein großes Bedürfnis an Verständnis zu wecken und hinzusehen. Es gibt prägende Momente im Leben, die man nicht so leicht abstreifen kann, selbst wenn man es möchte, und damit fertig zu werden - und weiterzuleben - ist eine Kunst für sich.

Die Liebesgeschichte die sich hier einreihet ist umso bewegender und zeigt, wie sehr wir auf andere Menschen angewiesen sind, die uns stützen und akzeptieren und lieben, so wie wir sind.

"Sie musste nicht die Wache besiegen, sondern das Schicksal selbst." S. 502

Sefia, deren Flucht scheinbar kein Ende nimmt, macht eine große Entwicklung durch, die aber eher leise vonstatten geht. Das Leben ihrer Eltern, die Vorgehensweise der Wache und das Schicksal, das sie bei und in sich trägt - das alles lastet schwer auf ihren jungen Schultern. Jeder Schritt ist zaghaft, jeder Weg beschwerlich und trotzdem bleibt sie sich selbst treu und tut alles, um das Verhängnis, das über ihnen allen schwebt, abzuwenden.

Durch ihre Gabe sieht sie mehr als andere, doch die Frage nach dem Schicksal und ob man es abwenden kann, ist wahrscheinlich so alt wie die Menschheit selbst. Diese Magie der Worte, der Zauber einer Prophezeiung und auch die Macht der Selbstbestimmung liegen wohl immer im Widerstreit.

"Dass du dir eine bessere Welt wünschst, macht dich nicht zu einem schwachen Menschen. Es macht dich zu einem Menschen, den die Welt braucht." S. 110

Es gibt so viele schöne Metaphern und die bildgewaltige Sprache entwickelt einen Sog, von dem ich mich gerne hab treiben lassen. Eine dichte Atmosphäre voll düsterer Gedanken, zärtlicher, verborgener Liebe und der Angst vor dem Tod: Traci Chee schafft neben der brutalen Realität so sanfte Schwingungen, so feine Nuancen, die mich sehr berührt haben und die vor allem eine ganz besondere Wahrnehmung der verschiedenen Charaktere bewirkt haben.

Käpt'n Lees und seine Mannschaft zum Beispiel, deren Wege klarer und dadurch noch unergründlicher geworden sind, aber auch der König von Corabel, Edouar, der der Wache schon länger ein Dorn im Auge ist; jedes der Kapitel ist durch die Intensität sowohl spannend als auch ergreifend und das alles, ohne künstliche aufzupuschen oder durch konstruierte Naivität eine erzwungene Dramatik einzubringen.

Ich war wieder von der ersten bis zur letzten Seite gefesselt, überrascht von den vielen Wendungen, den unerwarteten Reaktionen, die sich aber alle wunderbar in die Handlung eingefügt haben, die Stück für Stück aufgedeckt wird, ohne jedoch alles zu verraten. Der dritte Band steht noch aus und ich freu mich schon sehr darauf, denn das Ende verspricht einen neuen Anfang und den großen Kampf um Worte und Magie.

Wunderschön auch wieder innen die hochwertige Aufmachung und die kleinen Verspieltheiten mit dem Text und den Wörtern.

© Aleshanee
Weltenwanderer

Christian McKay says

Trust Traci Chee.

If you are young, she will show you what it's like to have power. If you are old, she will remind you of what it was like to have adventure.

She will fold you up in her world and make you gape at life and flinch at violence and not so much believe in magic as point out that the proof is all around you.

I cannot wait to read the next one.

autumn says

just as amazing as the first!!! this is a really incredible series that i would absolutely mention in the same breath as six of crows in terms of great, genre-saving ya

Gemma F says

Update:

Oct 7, 2017

My ARC has arrived! Thank you Penguin Random House!

-

Full Review on my blog: <http://wp.me/p6917X-X1>

Oct 19, 2017

This book was everything. Exceptionally well-written with a story which will live on through the readers.

Shenwei says

tfw a book/series is full of people and events that are all interrelated but you don't see the causality and connections linearly and so you're just like omg wtf with every new twist and discovery and then you lie there wondering what kind of genius it takes to make all of that work

sorry I'm incoherent but I loved this book.

Sefia and Archer are probably my ultimate OTP of recent YA. *cries*

p.s. there are multiple queer supporting characters/couples and I am happy that this turned out to be a much more queer-friendly AU than most high fantasy. (I wish there were trans characters too instead of just cis queers though, which is my beef with a lot of fantasy that is trying to be queer-inclusive)

CWs/TWs for: violence, death, murder, depression, self-harm, suicide/attempts, PTSD

Tara Sim says

If you loved THE READER, you won't be disappointed with the next installment of the SEA OF INK AND GOLD trilogy. I was delighted to return to the land of Kelanna with Sefia and Archer and experience all their new adventures. Archer's character arc in particular was so fascinating, and I loved the way Sefia grew more confident in her abilities and goals. There are some familiar characters who return in this book, as well as some new (and now favorite) ones as well. And the MAGIC! The magic is so cool, you guys. You want this one on your TBR.

Emily says

TRACI HOW.

Fadwa (Word Wonders) says

Holy shit.

HOLY SHIT.

THIS BOOK MADE ME QUESTION MY OWN DAMN NAME!!!!

I loved The Reader but The Speaker blew me away. The way it's woven in with events that happen in the first book, answering some questions but raising EVEN MORE QUESTIONS. It's also much darker, a lot more fast paced and all around BETTER. Every event took me by surprise, every twist and every turn had me praying to every god known to humanity THAT MY BABIES BE OKAY. Speaking of my babies. These characters are a mess. A BEAUTIFUL MESS. They're deeply flawed, selfish and amazingly human and i want to protect them forever. They make mistakes and questionable decisions but hey i would die for them anyway.

Please pick this book up. It's absolutely fantastic!!!!

Kerri says

i was lucky enough to read an early draft of this and it. blew. me. away. you guys are going to LOVE THIS!

Lara (Bookish_turtle) says

This trilogy is so fantastic, I highly recommend them to all lovers of YA fantasy! I know they're not very well renowned, so I'll avoid spoilers, but there are so many feels!

If you loved The Reader, you won't be disappointed in this next installment! Sefia and Archer are back in the magical land of Kelanna, along with plenty of new characters for you to fall in love with and give your soul to. I won't describe them (even if I did I wouldn't be able to do them justice), but they are all unique and fit in so well with the story. Traci Chee just has a way of creating the perfect characters to fit in with all aspects of the story.

The magic plays a bigger role in this book, and the world building is so incredible. I could really feel all the beautiful, rich settings which were described, and I felt so enraptured by the story unfolding before my eyes. It is so beautifully written, there was not a single page where I was bored!

This is a story that will stay with me for a long time. But, WHERE IS MY CONCLUSION?!?!?! I NEED IT RIGHT NOW AND I CAN'T WAIT ANOTHER YEAR! WHY DOES THIS ALWAYS HAPPEN?! I think that you should definitely drop everything and read these right now. Or, if you have common sense (which I don't) then wait until they are all released, *then* drop everything and read them!

Holly says

Things that made me happy about *The Speaker*:

*The merry band of brotherhood - Peter Pan vibes for days, these lost boys (and girls) are rescued and then left with no direction, so Archer gives them a direction, and a purpose, and compassion. He gives them a reason to keep going and to move on from what happened. It's not always happy, nor is it easy, but I loved the bonds they all formed with each other. ALL THE FEELS.

*The normalization of boys feeling emotions - society pretends boys can't and shouldn't cry, and I loved that this book let them feel all their feelings without the toxic masculinity that pervades our world today.

*The *Current of Faith* crew - always a pleasure seeing these pirates on the pages. They're thrill seekers looking to accomplish deeds that will get them remembered long after their deaths. But they're also just such a lovable group of misfits and rebels, and any time we were with them, I was SO into their newest adventure. I can't wait to see how they tie into the third book, and I want all the *Current of Faith* voyages, please and thanks.

*Queer love accepted without persecution or argument - which never seems to happen? Unfortunately, in a lot of non-contemporary books especially, the standard is heterosexuality, and anything beyond that is Not Okay to the society inside them. **But here it just was.** And I loved, loved, loved that.

*It was diverse and detailed and **dark** - the world is one you'll want to sink your teeth into. It is vibrant and so unique (I mean, a world in which there are no books, HOW AWFUL AND CREATIVE), and the reason why I love fantasy so much. Also, it does not shy away from gritty subjects. Characters are tortured or do the torturing, some struggle with PTSD and their pasts, others lose loved ones or die. The book wasn't afraid to go there, and I'm here for the morally gray complexity of life.

*Stories within stories - reading this, and *The Reader*, is an experience. I'm still trying to figure out how so much of it fits together, and because of its intricacy, I'm constantly surprised by the slow reveals and mysteries unraveled throughout the books. And the hidden messages, smudged thumbprints, crossed out and faded sections all make for an fascinating reading experience. One that you'll want to redo at least one more time so you can catch it all, even though you won't. I swear you still won't know everything. Trust me, I already tried it. ;)

So yeah, y'all should read these books! They are SO GOOD.

Rating: 3.5 Paw Prints!
