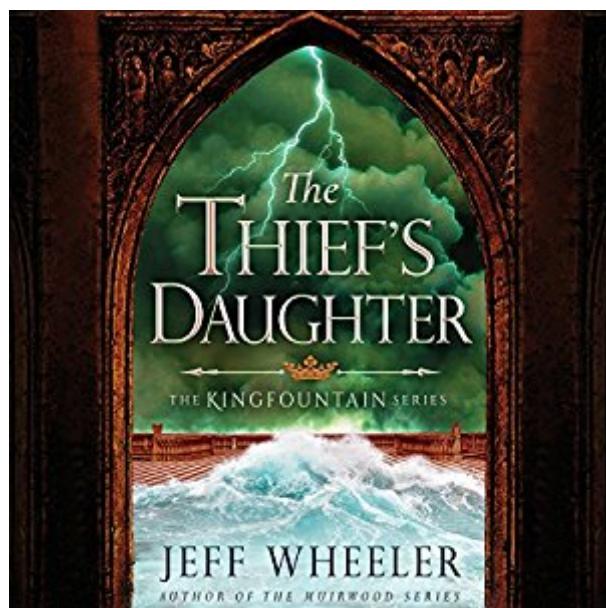


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# The Thief's Daughter: The Kingfountain Series, Book 2



## **Synopsis**

Owen Kiskaddon first came to the court of the formidable King Severn as a prisoner, winning favor with the stormy monarch by masquerading as a boy truly blessed by the Fountain. Nine years hence, the once-fearful Owen has grown into a confident young man, mentored in battle and politics by Duke Horwath and deeply in love with his childhood friend, the duke's granddaughter. But the blissful future Owen and Elysabeth Mortimer anticipate seems doomed by the king's machinations. A pretender to Severn's throne has vowed to seize the crown of Kingfountain. But Severn means to combat the threat by using Elysabeth as bait to snare the imposter - and forcing Owen, as a pawn in the dangerous charade, to choose between duty and devotion. With poisoners and spies circling ominously, and war looming on the horizon, Owen must make painful sacrifices to beat back the advancing shadows of death and disaster. Will Owen's conflicted heart follow the king's path or will he risk everything for love?

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

In *The Thief's Daughter*, author Jeff Wheeler continues the saga of Owen Kiskaddon and Elysabeth Victoria Mortimer. Now ten or so years down the road, both children have grown into early adulthood, leaders of their own respective duchies. Their early friendship has flamed into a growing and obvious affection for the other. Young Kiskaddon leads his king's armies in battle, securing the kingdom's borders from flagrant overruns by neighboring kings and the rising personal aspirations of a long lost nephew. However, will duty towards their king jeopardize their

love for each other? Or will the king demand duty irrespective of love? Only the Fountain knows. The Thief's Daughter is a fun and intriguing read. Once again, this reader found himself caught up within the lives of two enjoyable characters as they work their way through court mysteries towards their own impossible personal goals. Long live the king!

About 9 years has past since Owen first entered King Severn's court as a hostage. Circumstances have changed and he has become a trusted Duke of the King. Now a young man he enters the battlefield. His loyalty, love, trust, believes, and integrity will be cruelly tested in the coming storm. Owen will need all the abilities of his wit, strategy, and knowledge to survive a deadly game where he knows not all who are playing have revealed themselves. Every decision he makes is a gamble, a guess and bares great risk not only for himself and those he loves but for his country. Hopefully he will survive and still retain himself.

In Jeff Wheeler's first book (The Queen's Poisoner) of this series, we were introduced to a young boy, Owen Kiskaddon, torn from his family to be the hostage to a king. In this 2nd book we join Owen as he's matured into a young man and as momentous changes are about to occur that affect his life, the lives of the people around him he cares most about, and to his king and country. Like the first book, there are intrigues galore, action, battles and magic. New people are introduced & established characters leave. Like life some mysteries are solved while new ones appear. The pace of the book is swift and the characters and relationships continue to develop and deepen. I am looking forward to the next book to see how the story progresses. A very exciting, alternative world historical fantasy, which pulls heavily from the King Arthur myths.

You don't have to be Agatha Christie to have your reader wrapped up in intrigue. Jeff Wheeler keeps us guessing with the moves of his characters. Desperately in love, what will the hero and his childhood sweetheart do when the King they give their loyalty to betrays them in the most heartbreakin way. The analogies with Arthurian Legend layer across those of Richard III more thickly in this, the second book in the series. As a devotee of both, I give my admiration to Mr Wheeler for the sleek interface with his own star crossed lovers. I look forward to learning the fate of the characters in the next instalment.

This was one is the saddest, most cruel stories ever. To see such a strong, ingrained love between two people torn asunder in the name of loyalty is unforgivable. Book three better make up for all the

tears.

This second in the series takes place a decade after the events in the first. Owen and Evie are now seventeen and find themselves at the center of many conflicts. I have to give Wheeler credit for taking chances with these much loved characters and delivering a better middle book than the first. The plots were varied, reminiscent of "The Game of Thrones." Wheeler also introduces Etayne, a beautiful poisoner who takes the place of the original who died in the first chapter. It will be fun to see where Wheeler takes us in the concluding book.

Once again Jeff Wheeler (author) and Kate Rudd (narrator) both hit one out of the park. If you enjoyed his Muirwood series, you'll definitely enjoy this series as well. I enjoyed watching the characters grow throughout this series, and was often surprised when the true intentions of certain people revealed themselves. First impressions are not always true, especially in this series. Another amazing read/listen and both author and narrator are worthy of 5 stars.

Great story for those who are familiar with English history (Richard III) and Arthurian legends. It puts you in the knight/ king/earl era. Clean cut book without overdue violence (a few battles) or sexual content. You develop an attachment to the characters from the first book and follow through with them here.

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