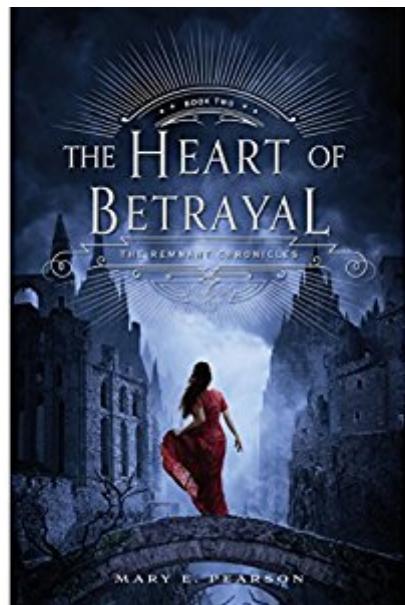


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# The Heart Of Betrayal: The Remnant Chronicles



## **Synopsis**

Held captive in the barbarian kingdom of Venda, Lia and Rafe have little chance of escape...and even less of being together. Desperate to save her life, Lia's erstwhile assassin, Kaden, has told the Vendan Komisar that she has a magical gift, and the Komisar's interest in Lia is greater than either Kaden or Lia foresaw. Meanwhile the foundations of Lia's deeply held beliefs are crumbling beneath her. Nothing is straightforward: There's Rafe, who lied to her but has sacrificed his freedom to protect her; Kaden, who meant to assassinate her but has now saved her life; and the Vendans, whom she always believed to be barbarians but whom she now realizes are people who have been terribly brutalized by the kingdoms of Dalbreck and Morrighan. Wrestling with her upbringing, her gift, and her very sense of self, Lia will have to make powerful choices that affect her country, her people...and her own destiny. Read by Emily Rankin, with Ryan Gesell, Kirby Heyborne, Kim Mai Guest, and Ann Marie Lee.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

4.5 STARS A broken world built on bitter deception, ultimate betrayals, kindest friendships, faithful loyalties, sweet romance, unbreakable love, and the most deserving murders... THE HEART OF BETRAYAL will capture your heart and soul, and leave you breathless and utterly satisfied, but still craving more!!! I don't even know where to begin to express my love for this book--series!! It's breathtaking, and the betrayals and revelations were beyond shocking and utterly heart wrenching to endure. At one point my heart became so entangled in where and who my loyalties lie with, that I

wanted to scream at Pearson for creating such a flawless book, with brilliant character developments, and stunning chemistry, that I wanted Lia with BOTH of her love interest. Even though I knew it couldn't happen, but there were still moments in which I said, "Why-CAN'T-SHE-HAVE-THEM-BOTH???? WHY?????" And then I came back to my sense and was all #Team\_Rafe again. BUT... I have to shamelessly admit after seeing Kaden in a new light, my love has grown tenfold for him in this book. And who knows, maybe by the end of the next book my loyalties could have easily switched to Kaden. And I have a gnawing feeling it's going to be an all out war choosing where and who I ultimately stand with at the end of this series. I just hope Pearson doesn't kill off one of the love interest. That would shatter my heart and make me beyond furious. But I don't think she'd take the easy out like that, at least I hope not!?!?!?!?!?!?ILIA:Lia is one of the best female protagonist I've ever read! And like the other characters in this book her character development is tremendous from the first book, yet with just the right amount of imperfections to make her realistic, yet flawed.

It didn't take me long to devour Mary E. Pearson's The Heart of Betrayal, it was the kind of read you can't put down and totally forsake Twitter for! Once again, I found myself lost in this fantasy world she's created and love every minute of! Naturally, I was a little sketchy on the details of what happened in The Kiss of Deception, but the gist of what I remembered was, the Assassin and Prince are totally not who I initially thought they were! LOL! Kaden, the Assassin, has brought both Lia and Rafe to Venda's Komizar, the ruler. He still doesn't know that Rafe is in fact the prince of Dalbreck, but knows he has a connection to the prince. Rafe claims to be a messenger of sorts basically. And Lia, well, Lia is Lia. But Kaden claims she has the gift. He says this in order to save her, for Venda doesn't take prisoners. Once again we have the points of view of Lia, Kaden, Rafe and occasionally, Pauline. I'm always thrilled to have Kaden's point of view, because he's the Assassin! And yes, we capitalized that because he's that good! That Kaden fell for Lia strikes a chord with me. The big, badass falling in love, which the "wicked" see as something so trivial. I have a soft spot for him, but alas, I do find myself liking Rafe the most! But Kaden, badass that he may be, is still a good man at heart. He goes to great lengths to protect Lia while she's a prisoner at the castle. He's never cruel to her and when he does start getting pissy, Lia is quick to put him in his place! The story of this book is basically Lia and Rafe trying to plot their escape. They can't stay here, though the Komizar does have plans for Lia, they will lead to nothing good. Escape is essential, but they must wait for Rafe's crew to come along and help them out.

If you haven't read the first book, I beg you to stop reading. In fact, I hope you didn't even read the book synopsis. I fell in love with The Remnant Chronicles right from the start. The Heart of Betrayal was easily my most anticipated read this year. And Pearson did not disappoint. So I'll cut to the chase. Did I love this book as much as the first one? Not quite. Did I still love it? Yes. And here's why: The world building is phenomenal and the writing is beautiful. Venda... It's such an interesting place. There are secrets everywhere and things aren't necessarily as they always seemed. And I liked that Venda certainly had some aspects of Russian culture. From the Komizar to calling friends comrades. Even trying to distribute food and wealth evenly (but fully failing because people are biased) seemed slightly reminiscent of an old socialist Russia. There are things that aren't stated outright, but they happen. And the reader is left to figure it out. I feel like if I reread these books I would glean a whole bunch of new information I hadn't seen before. The characters... Oh my goodness the characters. I love most of them to pieces. Kaden earned a particularly special place in my heart when we learned more about his backstory and how he became the Assassin. Rafe spent much of the book as a prisoner, but it was interesting seeing him interact with all of the Vendans, pretending to be the prince's emissary, pretending he had no regard for Lia. He is truly a wonderful actor. Lia is still the strong and feisty heroine she was in The Kiss of Deception. And we see her scheme even more in this installment. The Komizar, I'm not sure how I feel about him. He was an interesting and complex character, but altogether an ass.

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