

## **Ever the Hunted**

**Erin Summerill**

**Reviewed by: Rina Guo, 17**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**

**[www.bethestaryouare.org](http://www.bethestaryouare.org)**

Britta Flannery is the daughter of the greatest bounty hunter in the kingdom of Malam. No one can match her skill and grace, except Cohen McKay, her father's apprentice and the boy she once loved. But everything changes when her father mysteriously gets murdered, Cohen disappears and a few months later, Britta becomes charged with a minor crime. Out of good fortune, instead of facing a death sentence for the crime, a high lord of the kingdom offers her a bargain. Using new uncovered evidence from the scene of her father's murder, if Britta is able to capture the killer, she can trade the murderer's life for her own. The only problem is that all the concrete evidence from the terrible night points to one person—Cohen McKay, the last person she would suspect to be the cause of her father's death. But if it means getting justice for her father and a chance to escape certain death, Britta has nothing to lose if she has to hunt down the murderer— at least nothing to lose except the love of her life.

This novel is recommended for readers age 13-18. There are some mildly violent aspects that may be frightening for young children.

This was a pretty good book. I really appreciated the plotline and development of the story. It took several turns and ended up in a way that was exciting and unexpected. Throughout the whole story, I really loved how complex everything started to become, and I realized this was a lot more than just getting to the bottom of a murder mystery. Additionally, Britta is such a cool character, and I love her courage and strength, as a young lady. She constantly seems to be underestimated by the characters around her, but time and time again, she proves her worth and her willingness to preserve. Throughout this novel, she gains a sense of identity as well as some background information about her parents that was previously unknown to her. She struggles constantly with the idea that people are never what they seem to be and that everyone has complicated hidden intentions. In addition, we get a small taste of Britta's relationship with her closest peers, which will be further challenged in the second book.

There wasn't much that I disliked, except that along the way, I was sometimes uncertain about where certain events were going. I guess this was intentional though, in order to make the story more unpredictable and interesting. The ending of the novel, felt satisfying but still largely inconclusive. As mentioned earlier, the issue in the story greatly evolves into something so much more, and it isn't until the later books, that we have a more firm idea of the larger conflict and how it is resolved.

But overall, I think *Ever the Hunted*, is a great start and wonderful foundation for the rest of the series, and the action and adventure in the novel is thrilling and compelling. Readers who enjoy adventure, fantasy and romance as well as valiant and talented female protagonists would love *Ever the Hunted*.

### **Recommended Titles:**

Defiance by C.J. Redwine

Legend by Marie Lu

Ever the Brave by Erin Summerill

Defy by Sara B. Larson

Midnight Thief by Livia Blackburne