



Mist's Edge

T.A. White

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The pathfinder, Shea, has chosen to make a place for herself among her former captors, leaving behind her people and the life she once knew. However, not all welcome this outsider in their midst. Shea will find that surviving alone in the wilderness is child's play next to navigating the politics that come with her new position. Especially when it becomes evident that there are those out for her blood.

As a new danger looms on the horizon, Shea and her warlord will need all the allies they can find. Because something is stirring in the barren lands from which all beasts are born. Something old and not seen since the last cataclysm.

Can Shea protect her people from this new threat or will it be the dangers from within her own inner circle that destroy her?

Mist's Edge Details

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From Reader Review Mist's Edge for online ebook

Peter Carlstrom says

Lost its steam

The fantastic adventures, awesome fight scenes, the gift of turning things around to backfire on Fallon were lost in this installment. The girl was insufferable, petty, self centered, irrational and idiotic - the couple was either fighting with each other or having sex. There was no tension and very little intensity besides erotic scenes and few battle scenes. Disappointed.

Mara says

Read a second time, I liked it even more :)

As I said before, an author with lots of potential. I'm following two of her three series (and read the first book of her UF one), and I'm really enjoying them. But the pathfinder series (Broken Lands) is the one I like more, maybe for the strong romantic elements.

Kat says

'Mists Edge' is the second book in the broken lands series where we rejoin Shea and Fallon as they continue to conquer the realm. This book in my mind is definitely split into two. The novel almost became a DNF at the beginning where Shea is adjusting to camp life which I was getting pretty bored of, most of the issue stemmed from Shea pining for freedom to scout or even not have guards around, then getting into arguments with Fallon because her life was just so harsh. If I view this from a literary perspective I can perhaps suggest that TAWHITE created that monotony so we understand Shea's life is like, regardless it did not stop me become quite bored and fed up with Shea. In the first novel I was impressed by her gumption and logic, here she seemed a different character, a spoilt whinging one.

However, I would say the tournament that takes place marks the beginning of the second part of the book. Here the action picks up, with threats from assassins and beasts. We glimpse the old Shea, we learn about her past, what she did that got her demoted, but more than that we begin to see how the main story of the series will take shape. This will not be about Fallon conquering lands, it is suggested a much bigger threat has been awakened.

The relationships continue to be fleshed out. The main one of course between Shea and Fallon as they come to love each other and truly accept one another. Once again the beginning of the novel almost drove me insane how much they argued due to their stubbornness but the relationship improved as the novel went on. We also saw more of the guards assigned to Shea such as Trenton and Caden, which provided great secondary character development. I loved the addition of Mist, the orphaned mute, and I hope she plays a part in the next book as her time in this one seemed so brief but I loved how protective Shea was of her.

A good instalment in the series, just persevere with the beginning though I can assure you the action does pick up and the third novel is shaping up to have a great storyline.

Kathy says

Pathfinder's Way was one of those surprise books I read last year. The story of Shea and her Warlord, Fallon was a pleasant surprise. I enjoyed the world building and the mystery around how their world came to be, the hints of magic and the many dangers that live in their world. I also enjoyed the slow burn romance between them, though it really wasn't a slow burn for Fallon, it was basically love at first sight for him. When Pathfinder's Way ended I was upset, there was way more story to tell! This could not be the end of Shea and Fallon's story! They literally just hooked up! So, needless to say I was excited when T.A. White announced there would be a second book and even a third book.

Mist's Edge picks up a few months after Pathfinder's Way ends. Shea has become Fallon's Telroi, his mate, love, lady friend, bedmate, whatever you want to call it. She is an outsider to Fallon's people, they don't really trust her, they don't really trust what Fallon sees in her and she actually feels the same way. There is a lot of mistrust and suspicion going on from Shea, Fallon and the Trateri. This is not a way to start a long term relationship. Besides the constant mistrust there are other powers at work, powers that probably want to see the end of mankind and its something that Shea is most likely responsible for "awakening".

Now, there isn't a whole lot of backstory to what happened that caused the great cataclysm that is spoken about in both Pathfinder's Way and Mist's Edge. Something huge happened hundreds of years ago to split the world up in to the Lowlands, the Badlands, the Outlands and the Highlands. People are basically just surviving in all four parts of this world. I'm not sure if this world was our world before the cataclysm because there are hints that Shea's world was once populated and there were great cities that seem like they would be of our world. Maybe this is what is left after the Night King's army laid waste to Westeros and T.A. White just spoiled GoT for us.

Mist's Edge is a solid follow up to Pathfinder's Way. The story of Shea and Fallon continues, Fallon still wants to conquer the Highlands, Shea is still hesitant to allow him to do that, it was her home before Fallon stormed into her life after all. There is still lots of political intrigue with the Trateri, plenty of assassination attempts on both Shea and Fallon and lots more sex. It's a little long on the details and Shea can be a bit tiring at times. BUT! This sequel is setting up for what will be the end game in book three. Even though there is some repetitiveness and the push and pull between Shea and Fallon is a little drawn out, we as readers need to see and understand Shea's inner struggle with being loyal to Fallon and yet loyal to her homeland and the people she still loves there. By the end of Mist's Edge Shea finally chooses a side and I'm totally on Team Sheallon. Let's be honest Fallon is a total book boyfriend and maybe a book husband. So, with that I'm excited to read the conclusion of their story.

I really hope that in the third book T. A. White will go into deeper detail on how Shea's world became what it is. What caused the great cataclysm that basically destroyed the world? Was it the outcome of the Night King's campaign to bring Winter to Westos or was it caused by the twitter feud between Donald Trump and Kim Jung Un? I also want to know if Shea and Fallon make it as a couple and make it out of the Highlands alive. I'm rooting for those two crazy kids!

If you read Pathfinder's Way I think you will be happy with Mist's Edge. There are some editing errors but nothing that distracts from the story. I was happy with it and look forward to book three.

Laura says

The first book in a series was rather good, the second - a complete let down. The heroine is insufferable, her inner monologues repetitive, churlish and annoying. In my opinion, instead of wasting her time on facial descriptions, the author should have concentrated on developing a plot line. As it is, the book doesn't deserve even a two star rating.

Nancy says

This wasn't as good as the first but will continue when book 3 comes out

Laura says

Don't like Shea in this. Feels like a persona much different than the one from the first book is being forced upon the reader. Shea doesn't want to be in a position of leadership over this group and that's understandable given her personality and her loner type lifestyle but when it was mentioned that she had never liked leading groups out into the wilderness it kind of pissed me off because it was such a contradiction to the first Shea that I read about who loved the thrill of the unknown and the adventure and who got pretty testy when her orders weren't followed. Suddenly she just wants to catalogue knowledge for future generations and she's become so dull. In the beginning of this book she's still yearning for that thrill yet when she takes a moment to talk to a friend about it, it's like she's advised just to settle and let everyone else handle things because being a pathfinder really what she sees herself doing for the rest of her life? And she kind of accepts and agrees. It just felt so stifling but rather than this feeling becoming an issue it's like she's just changing her desires, the result of which is a dull character whom I barely recognize and one who I'm bored reading about. She's also portrayed as kind of silly and whiny, her actions are regarded as cute yet annoying antics and at one point Fallon actually says, "What are we going to do with you"? Gag.

He's still controlling in the sense that he knows what's best for Shea and everyone else, but he's also a coward who slinks away in the wee hours of the morning after an argument between himself and Shea regarding her role with these people. Not for a day or so but for six weeks while he's off checking his outposts. Had Shea gone with him that might have been some interesting reading but no, instead we are treated with the oh so intriguing meeting regarding housing the new arrivals. Horse pastures or the dropping of human waste on their heads as they sleep? Riveting stuff. And he's just so placating towards her now. I think I liked it better the way he was in the first book, at least things felt more real in that one. In this at least at the beginning, the problems don't feel authentic and the times that Shea's opinion is requested it doesn't feel like they really need it or want it but more like they just want to make sure she feels included as a courtesy to her status as the ruler's mate rather than actually needing her expertise. Like they're just humoring her for maintenance purposes because a happy girlfriend makes for a happy warlord. I'm not sure it was meant to be this way but if her opinions were supposed to be important I just wasn't sold.

The mist finally shows up and describing it as simply underwhelming doesn't even come close to conveying the disappointment I felt. Mostly what you have is a thick white fog which obscures sight and causes disorientation and a weird time displacement. Sometimes people disappear into it and there's voices. I have

no idea what they say but Fallon and his men were lost in it for three weeks and Shea for one week while rescuing them. Honestly, Shea's breakfast got a more in depth description than the mist did. (I'm not kidding either - said breakfast description takes place the following morning.)

When they all get back Fallon and his men are no worse for the wear but exhausted little Shea girl nods off at the table and has to be carried off to bed by big strong Fallon. But that's ok because doesn't it feel good to be cradled in those big arms and cherished like a fragile little dolly?

Lots of time wasted with repetition too. For example the village of Airibel was described at the start of the book and then again in almost exactly the same words when Shea gets ready to take Fallon on a tour. But it's not said to him, it's just described unnecessarily again at the start of the chapter. I already know they live in the trees. I already know the trees are huge. I already know there's a network of branches creating pathways. It's not even done in such a way as what they are experiencing as they arrive, it's just a repeated info dump.

All of these complaints are trivial though when compared to what happens next. During a cheesy pool frolicking scene, Shea broaches the subject of her desires to continue to scout and use her pathfinder skills. Fallon shoots her down, convinces her that not only does she not truly enjoy it, but that she's not good at it and that some of her reckless actions and insubordination would have gotten more important men whipped. But then later on in the book he and several of his men are laughing it up and telling fond stories of that same insubordination. And what about when she saved his sorry ass in the beginning of book one? It's like everything I liked about Shea is being made light of. It feels like she's being brainwashed into agreeing to fit into this little box he's made for her, but without any real skill on his part. Like when an adult uses reverse psychology on a child. It was weirdly insulting in a way because those scouting missions and her escape artist ways are what enticed me to pick up book two. Shea asks him if being a scout or not being a scout should be her decision and not his. His reaction, "I'm the warlord and if I say you won't be a scout, you won't be a scout."

And what happened to all the women warriors? Shea isn't a warrior, she's not even a good scout, she's a bed warmer whose wants and opinions can be silenced by a nipple tweak and a nip on the neck. I found this insulting to women. Even the scene with the tree top village story teller managed to be insulting because of the comments that Fallon had made and mostly the fact that it was meant to be cute.

Here's a dandy little bit. All those cheesy love scenes? Turns out every last one of them took place with her assigned guards in close enough proximity to hear everything. Oh man, Shea's spitting fire at this one...yes! Leave him (please) leave him. And not only for the fact that they could hear them having sex, but also they got to hear him basically belittling her skills and crushing her scouting dreams.

On the way out of the trees there's this: 'Fallon was respectful of the older man, but not so much that it wasn't clear who was in charge' - I really hate Fallon. During this same scene, it's hinted that any children conceived in the waters of that pool would be favored by the gods or something along those lines. Fallon looks ready to do cartwheels, Shea looks like she might be ill. Thank goodness for the herbal supplement she takes to prevent a pregnancy, but I'm pretty sure a miracle baby will come out of that tryst, conceived in front of the guards on the night that she was made to believe that her wants, needs, and skills were nonexistent. This is quickly followed by a scene in which a bunch of idiotic and apparently sex starved women all converge on one of the guards and actually grope him, while the men all have themselves a good chuckle. Shea too finds this completely humorous and suddenly her anger seems to be gone and now I'm mad that she's not still mad.

After they get back to camp, after pissing her off about something new, there's this: 'Fallon's lips only

twitched, and he got a look on his face that said he thought her anger was adorable.'

This literally almost makes me sick. Why isn't Shea escaping? How could she possibly be happy with this life?

At some point she finally gets her voice back and tells him she was this way when he met her, it's who she is and she's not going to change, etc.. I was briefly happy but overall it was too little too late.

Shea does get to scout again but literally has to wait until Fallon gives his permission which in my opinion just made her look stupid in front of another pathfinder. It was a strangely embarrassing and uncomfortable scene to read.

There was finally something happening during those scouting scenes but still not enough to make up the dull yet infuriating first half of the book.

I could go on and on but I guess I'll just sum it up by saying that overall I pretty much hated this book.

Limecello says

Oh my gosh. This series. I really like Fallon and Shea now - and yes they have a LOT of issues, but I also like this look we rarely get to see of the "after HEA" - wherein sure yes they're together now ... but they have to figure out their lives together.

Shea is still so torn, which - I mean I get; she's only been with the Warlord for a few months, AND so many of his people treat her with hostility, or indifference, and really she only has 3 real friends ... and Fallon, who is sometimes INCREDIBLY heavy handed and overbearing, yes in his desire to protect her from all harm but ...

I have SO MANY QUESTIONS about all the beasts etc - and also who/why all want to kill Shea. I also so want to know about those ... voices? that spoke to Shea underground.

That scene where she first encounters her father broke my heart and made me so mad - he better make up for it. Also OH MY GOD WHY DOES NOBODY IN HER LIFE JUST SUPPORT HER?!

Like - here is a case where the "poor lil me all alone in the world" is pretty damn close to right.

Although - I think there's also ... I don't know. I wish it was more clear how her guards really feel about her? Sometimes ... I don't know. I guess I want them to be more loyal to her than him.

I'm so invested in this series <3 and gosh I wish T.A. White had more adult fantasy romance titles/is working on them!

B+

Celestine says

Mist's Edge is an epic fantasy about finding your way. Characters are called upon to find their way through the mist, through relationships, through leadership, and ultimately, through a harrowing and dangerous world. This epic journey is broken up by a steamy love story, full of the push and pull of a new relationship

between two dominant characters, levity and humor, excellent secondary characters (and their interesting stories), and some of the most fantastical scene-setting I've read in a long, long while.

I am going to start with the scene setting, because White clearly pinched ideas from *Avatar* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. I was there, in those stories, in those fantastical movie settings, and then I was in MORE. The way in which White took the idea of Home Tree, and then turned it into this embellished setting in the treetops, complete with architectural purpose and grafted plant life to enhance the beauty of the setting, I was just...WOW. No words. I was buried in the majesty of the description and awed by the imagination that took me there.

Mist's Edge moves this epic fantasy forward with both the adventure and the heart. It solidifies the physical relationship between Shea and Fallon, while simultaneously deepening the emotional output. **"Sometimes it scared him—the depth of feeling he had for this woman. He didn't know what he would do if he ever lost her. If the world thought him a monster now, it had better pray that she outlived him."** What becomes clear is that Shea is Fallon's strength and his weakness. In a wonderfully unexpected way, these same surety of feelings are not exploding out of Shea. She is wrapped up in finding her place in this new world, trying to discover what she is beyond an isolated scout. Fallon is the ultimate leader of men, and he sees these qualities in Shea, and they are revealed in wonderful bits and bites. He wars with his confidence in her and his fear for her reckless behavior. He says loving her is like loving the wind. And much about Shea's behavior is like the wind. She is growing into herself.

Wrapped around all of this epic self-discovery is a fantasy story and strong characters that had me rapidly turning the pages. I was never bored, always wondering what was coming next for a big cast that I've come to care about. White also manages to bury a mystery assassin within the story arc, and it makes everything that happens personal, poignant and powerful. Emotions are heightened when your loved ones are targets. Beyond that, more unfolds regarding the origins of the Pathfinders and Shea's background. There is a lot going on in this novel, so buckle yourself in for a fantastic ride.

Book source: Purchased

mlady_rebecca says

Grrr. When you cuddle up & turn the page awaiting the next stage in the adventure and you are confronted with the fact that most authors don't write massive ~900 page epics like Jacqueline Carey. Next book and however much of a wait till it's published.

Not a cliffhanger, mind you, just a turn in the road, a new chapter in the overarching story.

Shae is a pathfinder, one who leads others through the wilderness between villages. One who knows the paths and the beasts. The type of girl who's neither a leader nor a follower, who is a step apart from everyone. A lone wolf.

When she rescues two villagers under her care from a hangman's noose, she also rescues two Trateri, one of whom later turns out to be the Warlord of the Trateri. Fallon is taken with Shae & attempts to take her as his prize, but she escapes by scaling a cliff.

A later pathfinder mission has a village offering Shae & her companions as tribute to the Trateri. One of the Trateri recognizes Shae as Fallon's escaped prize. But once they return to the Trateri camp, Shae makes her escape, only to be mistaken for a boy (Shane), a junior scout.

She joins the scouts happy for a safe passage out of the village, planning to sneak away once they are in her element. But her fellow scouts are in danger, and instead she becomes the hero, saving as many lives as she can, rising in the esteem of her fellow scouts and finding a companionship she never knew before.

When she has occasion to save the warlord's life a second time, she is invited to become one of his elite guard. An invitation you don't refuse. That is till you are unmasked as a woman and offered an honored place at the warlord's side. More than a mistress, less than a wife.

There was chemistry between Fallon & Shae from the start, but Fallon has a hard time convincing Shae to abandon her solitary ways, her loyalty to the pathfinders, and any remaining desires to return to the Highlands. Not to mention the freedom of being a scout.

That was all book one. In book two Fallon has been away for several months leaving Shae in his cousin's hands, having her teach Shae how she can lead at his side.

Shae is chomping at the bit to escape the press of the camp. She joins the welcoming party riding out to meet the Warlord. Only their party is lost in the mist, a supernatural fog that is more characteristic of the Highlands than the lowlands the Trateri are currently occupying.

Shae leads her party to the relative safety of a soul tree, massive trees that are anchored in multiple realities, and goes out alone to find Fallon before he is forever lost in the mist. She finds Fallon through a heart connection, a rare prophesized ability she had only heard mentioned in stories.

When they return to the camp, they find themselves facing Golden Eagles, another beast not characteristic to this area. Shae is concerned about the unusual beast activity even before her cousin, another pathfinder, shows up to take her home.

Instead of accompanying him alone, Shae, Fallon, and 100 men follow her cousin, not over the mountains, but through caverns below the mountains, allowing them to bring along their horses. But instead of the pathfinder's keep, Shae's cousin leads them to the now dessimated village that betrayed her, and an unexpected spokesman for her former people.

Love this story. Shae and Fallon. Even Trenton. And little Mist is enchanting.

Stephaniec says

3.5*

There was more character development here for Shea, she's growing, making friends and enemies and her relationship with Fallon was a little more fleshed out.

Again we got some answers about their world and what's going on as well as a few mentions about outside the highlands/lowlands but not enough IMO. If this is a trilogy there will either be a massive info dump in the next book or we will be left hanging.

Still, enjoyed this for the most part and looking forward to the next book.....whenever that will be

Lily says

An amazing sequel that is packed with both romance and action.

Shea does a lot of growing and adjusting in her new role. She and Fallon both seem to have matured by the end.

Laura (Kyahgirl) says

Glad to have found this author. I will definitely check out more of her work.

Holly says

This series keeps surprising me with how much I am drawn into this world. It's not a particularly fast paced story, or one with big plot twists, but it makes up for that with really well developed characters and world building. Shea feels like a real person trying to make her own way in a society that's not her own and in a romantic relationship that's definitely not easy. Fallon is a man who knows what he wants, and usually gets it, and is domineering in a way that makes you want to smack him upside the head. Their cultural differences also creates further complications. In the meantime, 'beasts' are attacking more and more, Fallon deals with rebellion in the clans, and Shea is faces her new role and responsibilities. This sets up the next book in the series nicely, and I'm looking forward to it!

TP says

Bummer.

When will the third book be released?? *Sigh*

Again the second book as the first one needs some professional editing and it would have been a 5 star book for me. Some minor unnecessary repetitions and i would have loved to have more details on specific things that would have interested me.
