



Changeling's Fealty

Glynn Stewart

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A ragged newcomer...

With a secret even he doesn't know

A backwater city...

With a countdown to an explosion no one is expecting

A secret Covenant...

And a conspiracy to break it to pieces

Jason Kilkenny is a new arrival in the Canadian city of Calgary. Unlike most newcomers, Jason isn't looking for a job in oil and gas: he's a half-fae changeling that wants to get away from the politics of the inhuman races.

He soon learns that despite being a supernatural backwater, the city is run by a near-godlike Wizard—and the shadows are full of unseen dangers. Jason's here to hide, but he finds himself called to service by Calgary's understaffed Fae Court.

As supernatural politics collide in his new home, Jason's plan to keep his head down is shattered and he finds himself testing the limits of his meager gifts. He cannot run, he cannot hide...and if he loses, he loses everything.

Changeling's Fealty Details

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Author : Glynn Stewart

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From Reader Review Changeling's Fealty for online ebook

Logan Horsford says

Good things, bad things - hence the three star rating.

The plot itself seems pretty solid. I like that.

The author's writing is clear and easy to understand. I like that.

The world itself seems like one of the generic hand waved 'masquerade' types 'yeah, we've been hiding here among you this whole time'. Cool. I'm neutral about that.

The reader of the audio book doesn't go in to the main characters southern accent too much. Does sometimes. Hence, I am neutral. I am not a fan of the 'southern accent'.

The MC is a bit dim. I dislike this. It's another in an endless line of reactionary protagonists which have almost become the generic MC. I dislike that. You would think that if someone has to deal with intrigue they study intrigue. If someone gets sucked in and trampled by it and didn't even make an effort (I'm too busy with my job and girlfriend to do something that may help me and my friends to survive) I have no sympathy for them. Only the 'luck of the heroes' keeps natural selection from taking effect. Which I find unfortunate.

Overall, I rate it 'meh, sure.'

J says

Exposition central.

Suz says

I enjoyed this. It was my first Glynn Stewart book and I liked it well enough that not only will I be reading the next book in this series but I'm also going to go dig up some of Stewart's catalog and see what else he's got going on. I'm thinking I'll start with his Starship's Mage series.

Good characters, decent mystery/investigation/action without needing for it to be a police procedural, interesting political structure for the supernaturals. I'll be back.

Christy deSade says

Beware ARC reviews

There were so many stellar reviews that I was seriously looming forward to this book, but when the author gets something as fundamental as the MC's classification wrong (a half breed is NOT a changeling) then it's going to be downhill from there. I have no desire to read anything else by this author, which is sad since the premise was sound.

Patrick Barnes says

This was a different approach to supernatural politics for me. I had problems with a few things. The changeling label was repeated enough times that I was forced to consider that the writer may not do the best Urban Fantasy. I thought that Changelings are supposed to involve humans and Fae exchanged at birth or something like that. The American main character knowing all about guns is probably a global perception of the US, of which everyone in U.S. media and politics are (unfortunately) crazy proud. The number of guns floating around Calgary was staggering and surprising, though. With so few supernaturals, I expected more magical weapons instead of cold iron rounds (hundreds of thousands of rounds for a supernatural population of less than 500, seems a bit much).

The main character and his girlfriend are fun to read. A relationship that was adult and covered in an adult manner for adult readers made the read worth it by itself. Actually most of the supernatural characters were fun and felt as if there was some depth to them. Reading about a magical creature taking public transportation to all his destinations was a very nice surprise. I felt for him, it reminded me of my own public transport adventures (not as exciting but just as draining).

I felt some real world depth in the humans, as well as the supernaturals. The separation of the shape shifters, feeders and Fae was a nice touch. The interactions worked for me and the plot just moved along at the perfect pace.

I basically only really remember the "Junkyard Druid" series and Anne McCaffrey's (I think) urban fantasy series, so I'm not much of an expert on the genre but I liked the way this story flowed and the writing was a treat. The next book is cued up already on my kindle.

Elusive says

Glynn Stewart has done it again!!! Another great book series in this case a trilogy has been started. At this point I don't know if there is even a Genre that is safe from Glynn Stewart xD. Every genre Stewart has written a book in so far has been greatness. I can't even claim to be surprised anymore, He is, just that good. If you are new to the Glynn Stewart fan base check out all his other books. I promise you that they are just as amazing.

Now on to the review of the book.

I really loved this from the moment I started listening to it, I just felt the story strike me and I couldn't put it down. You know that feeling when you have read fairy books before, your reaction goes something like this. OH NO, NOT ANOTHER GENERIC ATTEMPT AT A FAIRY LORE BOOK ABOUT OBERON AND TITANIA!!! Well good news you don't have to worry!!! Why??? Because Glynn Stewart doesn't write mediocre crap like that!!!! No this is a unique plot with unique lore and everything here was imagined by Glynn Stewart. There is amazing action, plot twists, romance, friendships, hardships and death. This is a

another one of my favourite series by 1 of my favourite authors. You really connect with the characters and the world building is great. There is also several moments where you will laugh at the protagonist xD. Magic, secrets, mysteries, and so much more. What are you waiting for go buy it now!!!

Li says

Not really a standout UF. This one felt very much like a setup book for the series. I've found that Stewart's series tend to improve once he gets the first book out of the way, so I'll pick up the second to see where the story goes next.

Mustrum Ridcully says

If I had not been recommended this book the mention of vampires in the blurb would have caused me to pass it by.

The book deals with my pet peeve of fantasy tropes in a fresh way and they have a minor role in the plot. I give a 5 star review seldom. And only when things such as plot, characterization, world building, and good grammar have all had their boxes ticked. And one other thing which has been turning me off quite frequently of late in my genre reading, the lack of some shred of goodness in the protagonist. By the end of the book you know that he is a good man. I get enough of the other sort in the news every day. I also listened to the audible version for a bit and this requires me to mention the thing that made me return to reading the book rather than listening. The reader is a good one who had no option but to use a southern accent as said accent is a plot point. But having made that decision and having used an Irish accent for a minor character he then neglected to use western Canadian accents where they would have been called for. This jarred quite strongly as I have lived in both the Canadian west and the American south. The result is that for me accents need to be both accurate, and consistent in their application in an audible performance. In this case the text gave the performer no option but to use a southern accent, but having done so he should have applied Canadian accents where needed.

Alisi ? wants to read too many books ? says

So, this whole book was written by a Canadian gun nut. There's guns literally everywhere. In Canada. Everyone's packing heat. I loved how the main character was just given guns and expected to know how to use them -- ops, he came from the US so he MUST know how to shoot a gun, right? There's magic and vampires and shifters and shit like that but the real magic here is gunz.

This is a really short book but it took SO LONG to read. The exposition in here is horrifying. Like, the real magic is how this book was published -- hell, how the author could write this level of terrible exposition AFTER PUBLISHING LIKE 30 OTHER BOOKS. This reads like this authors first book ever. It makes all the first book mistakes. Over exposition, stupid choices, things always going the hero's way, and so I thought -- and I'm not kidding -- that I might give this book 2 stars because obviously this is this author's first book and I looked (to see if the author was really Canadian, despite his hardon for handgunz) and I was floored to

see how many books he'd published.

This is an author who obviously has never tried to better his craft. He's obviously never gotten a story editor to point out the ridiculous nature of his plots and his expositions.

I mean, he stops action scenes for non-essential exposition. For example, in one scene, they'd escaped a bomb and one of the people was hurt. So faery guy was like 'we must merge heads so i can find the iron' and he's like coolsie. They do and he sees a memory of faery guy. After this, he launches into this long, long history of this faery guy, because that's important right now. Like, how he got to Canada, when he was born, etc. etc. What does that have to do with the current situation? Absolutely nothing!

I think that's what's so galling about authors like this. He obviously has talent but hell if he'll improve his craft when he can just skate along in life, right?

I'd give this book and author a pass.

Henriette says

Put succinctly: this is an urban fantasy version of the ship's mage. Jason is a changling. He believes that the father he has never met was a low-level fae, a Will-o-Whisp to be exact as conjuring fire is his only power. After a few misfortunes in his past, he moves to Calgary to start anew. Here he stumbles upon a conspiracy. The queen of the fae, Mabrona, enlists his aid as Jason is a vassal to her by way of his father's bloodline. Jason indeed has Will-of-Whisp blood in his veins, but not from his father, but his mother, who was a changeling as well.

The reason this book reminded me of starship was that like Damien our not very impressive hero goes up against a conspiracy and uncovering a special talent along the way, which helps him to succeed where no one else can. He also gets injured a lot.

Something I noticed not in the ship mage, but rather in the spin-off, Red Falcon, is the somewhat inconclusive development of power. This is also a problem in this book. In the beginning, Jason says that he can barely control his fire powers. With purpose, he can barely light a cigarette. This is partially because he seldom used them. It was also explained that fae manifest their full power within three years of their awakening. However, this time was long past for Jason. It was never properly explained how he advanced from a cigarette lighter to wielding a fiery whip. And no, his father's powers are different. You'll figure it out while reading the book.

This small qualm aside, I really enjoyed this book. Probably as much as Damien Montgomery's series.

Frank Bertino says

Don't Tick Off the Vassal

Even running off to Calgary in Canada does not allow Jason Kilkenney to escape the politics and intrigue of the Fae Court. Oh! And he didn't know that he was the Fae Queen's Vassal. Guess what? She has a mission

for him. Fail the mission many people in the city will die, including him. What's a Vassal to do but kill all the bad guys and protect the girls. I like the well-written characters and story line. Jason's character is compelling and grows incompetency. I look forward to the next book.

Stephen says

Good urban magic type book. Likeable character with potential, well fleshed support cast, plot was interesting if not especially imaginative or tight.

I have two gripes that are a little jarring in an otherwise pleasant book. One is that early on the author keeps going on about height, but plainly has no idea on what average heights actually are. He says a number of times "tall for a human, much taller than / shorter than average / than me at X. Average height in the western nations for men is 5'10, that doesn't make anyone tall. Being shorter than that doesn't make anyone average. I would imagine that in the protagonists age group and ethnicity the average is higher.

The other is that the protagonist is 24, but doesn't have a smart phone, and even after getting one which is "the latest that comes with maps" he is always asking people for directions. Nobody under 30 ever asks for directions. Everyone just puts the address into maps and goes. It's such a weird and deviant behavior without explanation.

Erica Anderson says

Re-reading this in anticipation of Hunter's Oath. Loved it the first time around, and it hasn't lost its attraction in the second round. Excellent pacing, a strong central character, and plot clearly situated in both human and inhuman worlds. *I hope* this means that Stewart is settling in for the long haul with the changeling series. In the first installment, he's created a cast of characters that could provide novel-fodder for decades.

I did notice a few typos, which were my only complaints in an otherwise fabulous urban fantasy.

If you enjoy Patricia Briggs, try Stewart. He's got a lengthy backlist to enjoy.

David Clayton Walsh Jr. says

Urban modern-day fantasy of the highest caliber

I had zero expectations starting this book, was not familiar with the author, nor was it recommended by anything other than the Kindle Store due to my genre preferences, so I was quite pleasantly surprised as I delved into Changeling's Fealty. And "delve" is an accurate verb, because there are definitely layers to this story, which I won't go into because spoilers should be punishable by flaying. Suffice it to say that I found the story exceedingly easy to sink my teeth into, and I was lost in this tale like only the best ones can do. The worldbuilding, characters, and style of Mr. Stewart reminds me greatly of Mr. Jim Butcher, which is one of the highest literary complements I'm capable of. If you're a fan of The Dresden Files or The Furies Of Calderon, definitely give this book a chance to similarly entertain you, and if you read this book and enjoyed it but have no idea what I'm talking about, you are in for a real treat, Christmas morning-level goodness. I'm

greatly looking forward to seeing this series progress, it has the makings of something great.

Kari Chapman says

This book really surprised me. It's not often that a book turns out as good as the synopsis makes it sound. Jason is a great main characters. He's a relative weakling with no connections, but it's clear there's a lot of potential there.

I think the thing I liked most in this book is that Jason is set a very difficult task by someone in authority over him, but they don't just walk away after that. They keep an eye on him and provide support in appropriate ways. We don't hit deus ex machina levels of support, just enough to keep him going. Also, the people in different factions around him talk to him and everyone listens to each other. It was delightful. Jason does make his share of bone headed decisions, as it expected of a newbie, but he makes good decisions too. I loved it.

The world building was well done and very interesting. The characters around Jason are interesting as well. I'm certainly looking forward to the next book.
