



## Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1)

By Leah Cypess

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When a young sorceress is exiled to teach magic to a clan of assassins, she will find that secrets can be even deadlier than swords. *Teen Vogue* proclaimed, "It's impossible not to fall deep into the dark yet alluring world of sorcery and secret assassins." A dangerous and eerie fantasy about murder, shocking discoveries, and fiery star-crossed romance that readers of Cinda Williams Chima and Robin LaFevers won't be able to put down.

Ileni is losing her magic. And that means she's losing everything: her position as the rising star of her people, her purpose in life, and even the young man she loves. Sent to the assassins' cave hidden deep within the mountains, she expects no one will ever hear from her again. The last two sorcerers sent died within weeks of each other. Accidents? Or something more sinister? As Ileni navigates the dangers—both natural and human—of the caves, she'll discover secrets that have been kept for decades. And she'll find an ally in Sorin, the deadly young man who could be the assassins' next leader. With Sorin determined to protect her, sparks—magical and romantic—will fly. But will even he understand the choice she must make in the end?

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## Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1) By Leah Cypess Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #179599 in eBooks
- Published on: 2014-03-04
- Released on: 2014-03-04
- Format: Kindle eBook

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## Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—Ileni was once a powerful sorceress, poised to be a leader among her people in their war against the Empire that exiled them long ago. But her magic is slowly and inexplicably fading, and she has been sentenced to spend the rest of her life as a teacher to assassins in a distant cave fortress. The teen also hopes to discover who killed the previous tutors sent by her people. The mission becomes further complicated by Ileni's growing feelings for Sorin, the assassin charged with protecting her. As Ileni delves deeper into the caves and the murders, she discovers more than she bargained for about herself and her people's relationship with the assassins and their mysterious leader. This book has a strong beginning that quickly fails to deliver, due in part to poor world-building. While Cypess gives a strong impression of a deep history of Ileni's people and the Empire itself, she doesn't delve into that history enough, which causes the story to lack a sense of true power. The romance is sluggish, despite a promising start, and Ileni herself, while steely and strong, has a tendency toward overt self-pity and whining. The novel's twists and turns set inside claustrophobic caves often lead to dead ends and will frustrate readers. Fans of Sarah J. Maas and Kristin Cashore may be drawn to this title but may not get deeply engaged.—Necia Blundy, formerly at Marlborough Public Library, MA

From [Booklist](#)

In a striking start to a new series full of magic and murder, Cypess (Nightspell, 2011) has created a heroine at the intersection of Tamora Pierce's Alanna and George R. R. Martin's Arya Stark. Ileni, a sorceress, is sent by her village elders to a rival land to tutor a group of young, brash aspiring assassins in the ways of magic, but she's been separated from everything she loves, and soon she is wishing for her assignment to end . . . at whatever cost. Her predecessors were quickly dispatched by a mysterious foe, and she has been told she's just as expendable. With her powers fading, she's starting to believe it. But she's not alone in her ever-more-hostile circumstances: Sorin, a young assassin assigned to protect Ileni, is good at training, magic, and doing what he's told without question, and they work together to keep each other safe and solve the murders of Ileni's predecessors. Fans who loved Kristin Cashore's Graceling (2008) and its brave heroine will be satiated by Cypess' genre-crossing tale of intrigue. Grades 9-12. --Stacey Comfort

Review

"[I]t's impossible not to fall deep into the dark yet alluring world of sorcery and secret assassins." (Teen Vogue)

"In a striking start to a new series full of magic and murder, Cypess has created a heroine at the intersection of Tamora Pierce's Alanna and George R. R. Martin's Arya Stark." (Booklist)

"A thoughtful exploration of identity and responsibility wrapped in a twisty, suspenseful mystery and set in a gorgeously realized fantasy world." (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

"Cypess masterfully depicts battles with daggers, spells, and wits. The surprising conclusion leaves readers hoping for a sequel." (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

"A dark, atmospheric, murder mystery laced with sorcery, intrigue, and dangerous romance. Prepare to be ensnared from the very first page." (Cinda Williams Chima, author of the best-selling Seven Realms series)

"Death Sworn is YA fantasy at its finest. Intricate and clever world-building, heart-stopping action, and an unforgettable romance that left me breathless—I adored every single moment and never wanted it to end.

This is Leah Cypess's best book yet!" (Sarah J. Maas, author of the best-selling Throne of Glass series)

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Wilma Baca:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray a person, why because this Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1) book written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who read the book. Written inside good manner for you, dripping every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still hesitation Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1) as good book not simply by the cover but also by content. This is one book that can break don't determine book by its cover, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your studying sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

#### **Jewell Garza:**

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#### **Sara Matthews:**

Don't be worry should you be afraid that this book will certainly filled the space in your house, you can have it in e-book method, more simple and reachable. That Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1) can give you a lot of buddies because by you investigating this one book you have factor that they don't and make you actually more like an interesting person. This particular book can be one of one step for you to get success. This guide offer you information that might be your friend doesn't understand, by knowing more than additional make you to be great folks. So , why hesitate? We should have Death Sworn (Death Sworn series Book 1).

#### **Marianne Stromain:**

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