

Title: *Deeplight*
Author: Frances Hardinge
Genre: Fantasy

Reviewer Name and Grade: Alex Z., 8th Grade

Date Reviewed: April 1, 2021

Deeplight is a book by Frances Hardinge. The story is about a boy named Hark and his friend Jelt. They are on an island chain called Myriad and Hark spent his whole life as an orphan living on it. They stayed alive telling good enough tales to tourists to get funds from the tourist's pockets, and occasionally Jelt would bring Hark to do something more reckless. On one of their adventures, they are caught by the authorities and become indentured servants as a punishment. They are taken in by Dr. Magdala Vyne, who works at a "godware" museum. Hark and Jelt become scientists and explore unexplored waters. Hark finds the beating heart of a dead god, and uses it to save his friend's life when a move failed and he was drowning, not knowing what it would do to him. Many of the submariners are deaf, so they use a common sign language. As the story goes on, we learn more and more about the gods and the reason they died. We learn that the gods that died want to come back, as the heart used to save Jelt was gradually and eerily transforming him into a monster.

Did the plot (for fiction) or presentation of information (for nonfiction) keep you interested?

Yes. I found the plot of this book very interesting, and it kept me interested the whole time.

Was the pace of the book too fast, too slow, or just right?

The pace of this book was just right. The story progressed not too slow or fast.

What grade level(s) is this book appropriate for?

This book is appropriate for grades 6th or 7th and up.

What type of reader would you recommend this book to?

I recommend this to anyone who enjoys exciting fantasy books.

What other information do you think would be helpful for teens to know about this book?

This book is fiction with realistic elements up until Jelt is saved, and at that point, the story becomes more fantasy-like.

4 stars: I enjoyed this book and found it worthwhile reading.

I think this book was really good, and I enjoyed reading it all the way through. An example of a part I liked was when Jelt is saved. The moment was intense and dramatic. Overall, I think this is a great book.