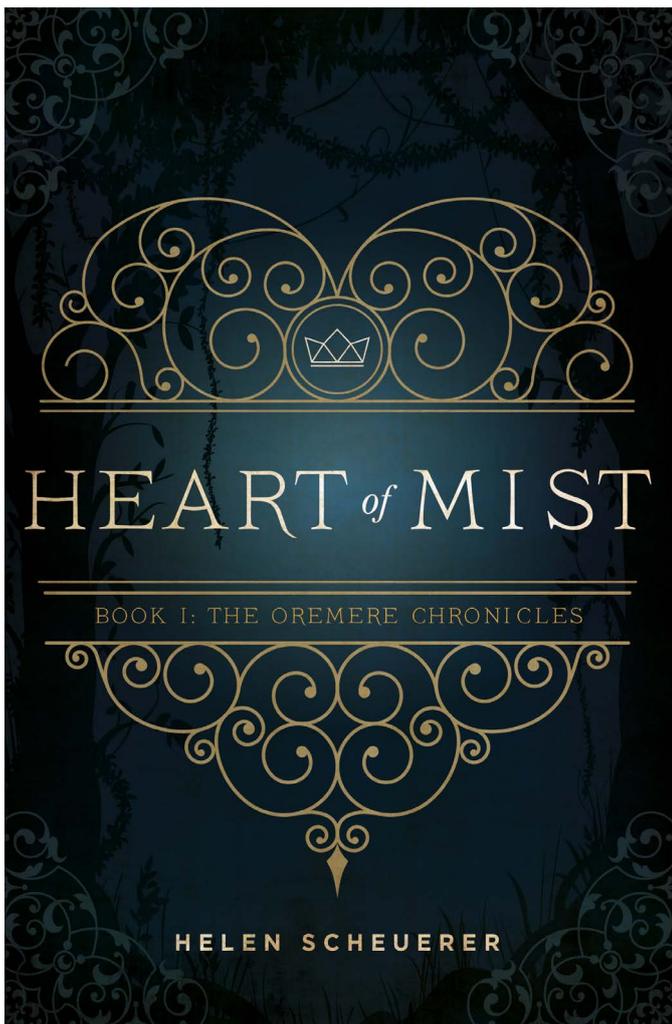


*Helen Scheuerer*  
— YA FANTASY AUTHOR —



# Media Kit

1. Author Bio
2. Book Synopsis & Target Audience
3. Book Excerpt
4. Potential Interview, Article & Guest Post Topics
5. Downloadable Book & Author Photos
6. Author Contact Details

# Author Bio

Helen Scheuerer

Helen Scheuerer is a YA fantasy author from Sydney, Australia. *Heart of Mist* is the first book in her high fantasy trilogy, *The Oremere Chronicles*. It explores themes of identity, belonging, loyalty, addiction, loss, and responsibility.

After writing literary fiction for a number of years, novels like *Throne of Glass*, *Elantris*, *The Queen's Poisoner* and *The Queen of the Tearling* inspired Helen to return to her childhood love of fantasy.

Helen is also the Founding Editor of Writer's Edit ([www.writersedit.com](http://www.writersedit.com)), an online literary magazine and learning platform for emerging writers. In its first year, Writer's Edit reached thousands of new authors, and soon became its own small press, with Helen overseeing the production and publication of three creative writing anthologies, *Kindling Volume I*, *Volume II* and *Volume III*. It's now one of the largest writers' platforms in the world.

Helen's love of writing and books led her to pursue a Bachelor of Creative Arts, majoring in Creative Writing at the University of Wollongong. While the *Kindling* books were being published, Helen also completed a Masters of Publishing at the University of Sydney.

Helen now works as a freelance writer and editor, while she works on the second book in *The Oremere Chronicles*.



*Helen Scheuerer*

**Website:**

[www.helenscheuerer.com](http://www.helenscheuerer.com)

**Social media:**

Facebook: @helenscheuererauthor

Twitter: @helenscheuerer

Instagram: @helenscheuerer

*Writer's Edit*

**Website:**

[www.writersedit.com](http://www.writersedit.com)

**Social media:**

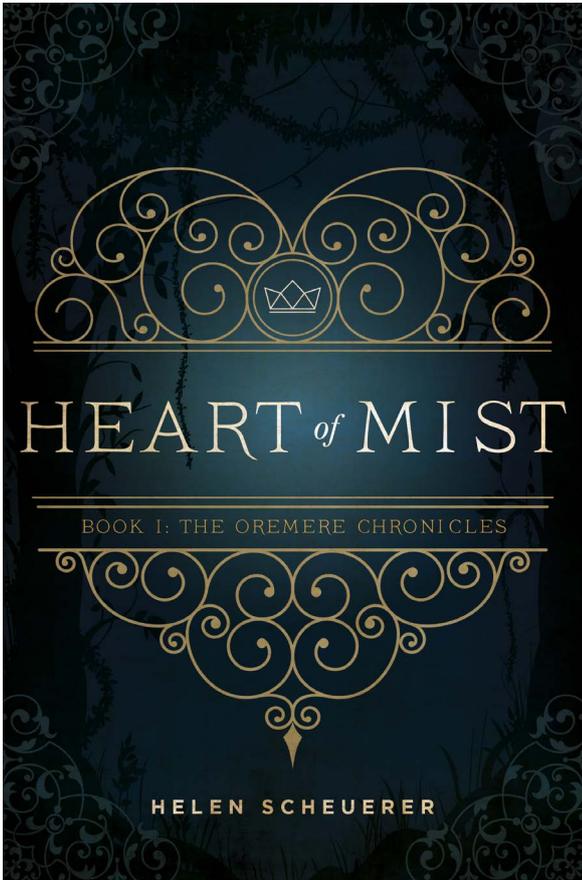
Facebook: @writersedit

Twitter: @writersedit

Instagram: @writersedit

# Book Synopsis

## *Heart of Mist* *Book I: The Oremere Chronicles*



### Synopsis:

In a realm where toxic mist sweeps the lands and magic is forbidden, all Bleak wants is a cure for her power.

Still grieving the death of her guardian, still trying to suppress her magic and dangerously self-medicating with alcohol, Bleak is snatched from her home by the commander of the king's army, and summoned to the capital.

But the king isn't the only one interested in Bleak's powers.

The leader of an infamous society of warriors, the Valia Kindred, lays claim to her as well, and Bleak finds herself in the middle of a much bigger battle than she anticipated.

*Heart of Mist* is the gripping first book in *The Oremere Chronicles*, a fantasy series of epic proportions.

---

### Book details:

**Title:** Heart of Mist  
**Series Title:** The Oremere Chronicles  
**Book:** 1  
**Page Count:** 460  
**Author:** Helen Scheuerer  
**Publisher:** [Talem Press](#)  
**Print ISBN:** 978-0-9941655-4-1  
**Ebook ISBN:** 978-0-9941655-5-8  
**Genre:** YA Fantasy  
**Comparative Titles:** *Throne of Glass*, *Queen of the Tearling*, *An Ember in the Ashes*, *A Court of Thorns and Roses*, *Glass Sword*, *Elantris*

### Target audience:

*Heart of Mist* is suitable for readers aged 14+, with a particular focus on female readers.

The book explores themes of belonging, identity, addiction, loss, and overcoming challenges.

It's expected that readers who enjoy the work of Sarah J. Maas, Erika Johansen, Sabaa Tahir and Brandon Sanderson will enjoy this title.

# Book Excerpt

## *Prologue*

The branches of the canopy were like springs beneath the balls of her feet, making her lighter than air as she leapt from one tree to another, towards her freedom. None of the sentries stirred. She knew how to use the dark cloak of night to her advantage. She was no more than a shadow, flickering with the rest in the dappled moonlight. She wove through the branches like a ghost, leaving the sleeping keep, her family, and her future behind. When she got to the outskirts of the forest, she dropped down onto the soft earth and ran. Although she had rigged the guard changes, it wouldn't be long before they realised she was gone. She sprinted. Her feet barely touched the damp ground as she darted between the lean trunks, her breath forming small clouds before her in the cool night, her dark hair stuck to her face. She had the build of her kind; tall, lean and corded with muscle. A body that had been pushed to the limits of endurance, moulded by a strict regime of discipline, forced to fight with blade, arrow, spear and fists. She was meant to be a leader, a warrior, a queen of the Valian people, but she couldn't be. Not when there was another choice.

Each thought pummelled into her, spurring her on, while branches stung her face and the wind tore through her leathers. Too soon, she was at the border. All that marked the end of their territory was the mist. It rolled in slow, thick waves, stopping abruptly at her feet, as though an invisible fence kept it contained. It rose up into the sky, as far as she could see. A seemingly impenetrable wall. Beyond it, was more mist.

The young woman tugged off one of her leather gloves, letting it drop to the ground. She stretched out a hand, into the shifting mist. It escaped between the gaps of her long fingers, and a cool sensation crept along her skin. Magic. She could feel it pulsing before her. The air in there was different, people said, thinner, unbreathable. Slowly and steadily over the past few decades, the mist had encroached onto their realm, inch by inch, thirsting for more life, more magic. Those who went beyond it, fell off the face of the earth.

She swallowed, her heart hammering as though it would burst from her chest. She looked out. Magic. Once widespread, the Ashai folk whose powers thrummed in all four corners of the realm, had greatly diminished over the years. The mist hungered for that power. Like a tide, it lapped at the lands, engulfing whatever lay in its path. It became a form of execution reserved for specific traitors of the crowns; those who wielded magic against the law. Forced to walk in at sword point, criminals would often try to impale themselves rather than endure whatever horrible death awaited them within.

The woman who stood surveying the mist had no magic. Though her bloodline was strong with rare talents, she was unblest, unremarkable. Most in the realm would call it luck, but for a leader in her lands, it was a failure. Now, her mouth was set in a serious line, and her grey-green eyes stared out into the uncharted distance ahead. Death awaited her, but she did not fear it. What was it but another form of freedom? She tucked her cropped hair behind her ears, and turned back, just once more; to take in the forest-covered mountains of Valia, her home. Her mother, the matriarch who was so sure her daughter could do anything, despite her lack of magic, would have fallen asleep long ago, and her sister... Her sister, only younger by minutes, would be training. Always training.

The mist stirred at her feet, wrapping around her ankles, and she could have sworn she felt a gentle pull, an invitation; the roiling clouds before her, luring her into their deathtrap. She needed no enticing. Although guilt tugged at her as she thought of her family, she knew this was the right way. The only way. The Valian Way. Her people deserved the best, and this was how she could give that to them. She turned to face the mist, and after a deep breath, walked in.

# Potential interview, feature article, guest post topics

## Topics

- The importance of strong female characters in YA fantasy
- The writing process (writing a series, writing fantasy, balancing work/writing, etc.)
- Changing from literary fiction to genre fiction
- Independent publishing (and turning down traditional options)
- Balancing multiple perspectives in fiction
- Running an online literary magazine and how this helped as a writer
- The inspiration behind *Heart of Mist*
- Social media, marketing and the importance of an author's online presence
- The publishing process and book production
- From idea to book: the journey of *Heart of Mist*
- The decision to write a series as opposed to a standalone novel
- Feminism in fiction and why it's important

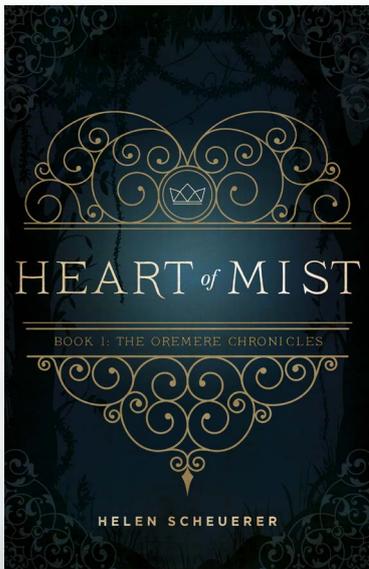
*The author is happy to discuss these and any other topics that may be relevant to your publication.*

## Interview question ideas

- Tell us about your book – what inspired you to write it?
- Do you use your own personal experiences when writing?
- What's your writing routine like?
- Tell us about why you chose addiction as a theme to explore in *Heart of Mist*?
- Who's your favourite *Heart of Mist* character and why?
- What's the inspiration behind *Heart of Mist*?
- What was your favourite book as a child?
- Do you have any techniques to stay on track when you're working?
- What are you working on now?
- In the book, you juggle multiple perspectives. How did you approach this?
- How do you get started on a new book?
- Who's your literary crush right now? Who do you fan-girl over?
- What's been your favourite moment while working on *The Oremere Chronicles* so far?
- What advice would you give to aspiring YA fantasy authors?
- What do you love most about the YA fantasy community?
- What's on your bedside table right now?
- What's one challenge you face as an author in the digital age?
- What's one advantage you have as an author in the digital age?
- As an author who's active online, how do you deal with online harassment and bullying?
- You're passionate about women's rights. Does *Heart of Mist* reflect this?

# Downloadable Photos & Author Contact Details

## Downloadable photos



You can download a [high-res cover image here](#).



You can download a [high-res author photo here](#).

## Author Contact Details

Helen Scheuerer can be contacted via the following channels:

**Email:** [hello@helenscheuerer.com](mailto:hello@helenscheuerer.com)

**Facebook:** [@helenscheuererauthor](https://www.facebook.com/helenscheuererauthor)

**Twitter:** [@helenscheuerer](https://twitter.com/helenscheuerer)

[www.helenscheuerer.com](http://www.helenscheuerer.com) | [www.talempress.com](http://www.talempress.com) | [www.writersedit.com](http://www.writersedit.com)