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The Necromancer: The Secrets Of The Immortal Nicholas Flamel, Book 4



Synopsis

Sophie and Josh have returned to San Francisco. They must protect themselves from the Dark Elders, but they've not yet mastered the magic they'll need to do so. Their trust in Nicholas Flamel is shaken, and their friend Scatty is missing. Unbeknownst to the twins, John Dee has amassed an enormous army of foul creatures, with which he plans to battle Nicholas and his wife, Peronelle. In order for his plan to work, he must train a necromancer to raise the Mother of the Gods from the dead. The twins of legend will make the perfect pupils in his diabolical scheme. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 11 hours 13 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Listening Library

Audible.com Release Date: May 25, 2010

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B003NYOBF0

Best Sellers Rank: #93 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Siblings #208 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends #466 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy

Customer Reviews

The Necromancer is just one book of this remarkable series of books, and it is better to comment on the whole series as I just finished reading them all, back to back. I'm 76, been reading sci fi and fantasy since I was 12 or so, that is a slew of books. And that includes all the recent series of books that have been published as "young adult" literature, and I have found them all entertaining reading. And, I have to put this series by Michael Scott at the top of the list, more interesting characters, more twists and turns and surprize in the plot that you can imagine, and not a dull moment through the whole series. I really recommend them if you have any taste at all for this kind of literature. Just give yourself some space to read, once you start, it is very difficult to stop. Enjoy!

In The Necromancer, we really get to see the characters gain a great deal of depth, especially the

twins and the relationship they have with each other. The world expands to include several new shadowrealms, which helps to solidify the understanding of how many shadowrealms there really are and how they operate. Before this novel, there was a wall up in the plot of this series that I wasn't even aware of. The storyline in *The Necromancer* knocked that wall down and smashed it to pieces, opening up so much understanding of the plot in one fell swoop. I can definitely feel the story beginning to build toward the end of the series and I can't wait to see what happens next! For this review and more, please visit my blog at vicariousbookworm.wordpress.com

My son is in 5th grade and is a pretty avid reader. I started him on the 3 pack paperback set of this series at Christmas and he then couldn't wait for the 3 remaining books, this being one of them. We ended up getting this one on his Kindle, as he wanted it NOW. Just finished up and ready for *The Warlock*, which I hear is incredible! Mom recommended - worth investing in the paperback set for the 1st three - save a few bucks too.

"My most pressing concern still lies with the twins. I am no longer sure how they view me. It was always clear that Josh harbored reservations about me, but now I am sensing that they are both fearful and mistrustful. It is true that they discovered portions of my history that I would have preferred be left uncovered. Perhaps I should have been more honest with them. I am not proud of some of the things I have done, but I regret nothing. I did what I had to do to ensure the survival of the human race. I would do it again." - from the *Day Booke of Nicholas Flamel*, *Alchemyst*

Less than a week has passed since fifteen-year-old twins Josh and Sophie Newman learned that everything they have ever believed is a lie. Six days, and their knowledge of the world has been broken and rebuilt a dozen times. They have both been Awakened - had their incredible talent and power for magic brought to the surface and their senses sharpened to the keenest edge. Sophie has learned three of the Elemental Magics, Josh one. Now, in the company of the immortal humans Nicholas and Perenelle Flamel, the twins have returned to the city where it all began, the very place where last they were normal teens - San Francisco. But it is not just their knowledge of the world that is changing and even here they can no longer pretend to be normal. With each passing day, Josh and Sophie become more aware that no one - none of the immortal humans, nor the Next Generation, nor the Elders they have met - is being completely honest with them. What IS clear is that each faction in the approaching conflict needs the twins, wants to use them for their own purposes. And because of that, Josh and Sophie have no idea who they can trust, or indeed, if they can trust

anyone at all. Nicholas Flamel has finally been reunited with his beloved wife Perenelle, but the events of the past six days have left each of them aged and weakened. The Book of Abraham the Mage now seems beyond recovery and in their current state, the Alchemyst has perhaps a week of life left, the Sorceress a little longer. It is unclear whether they will see the outcome of the events they helped to put in motion, but one fact is glaringly obvious. They must gain control of the army of monstrous creatures that Dr. Dee and his Dark Elder masters collected on Alcatraz Island before the beasts and beings can be set upon San Francisco ... and the world. They must stop them, even though doing so will no doubt cost them their lives. After failing to capture the twins and kill the Flamels, Dr. John Dee has been declared *utlaga* - a wolf's head or outlaw - by his Dark Elder masters. On the run and alone, the Magician has discovered a magic more powerful than even that of the Elders who seek to destroy him. Now it is time for him to formulate a new plan. Callously discarded by those he served faithfully for centuries, Dr. Dee needs only an old ally and a very powerful Archon to make the world his and his alone. But in order to release that Archon, Coatlicue the Mother of the Gods, from her dark Shadowrealm prison, he will also need to sacrifice someone with a very powerful aura to her hunger, a gold aura just like Josh Newman's. Niccolo Machiavelli and Billy the Kid are also in disfavor with the Dark Elders. They were sent to Alcatraz to kill Perenelle Flamel. Instead she managed to escape - using the boat they arrived in and leaving the two immortal humans stranded. Machiavelli knows, even if Billy The Kid does not, that they must find a way to carry out their mission - and quickly - or they will be in just as much trouble as Dee. The Dark Elders expect obedience, but they demand success. As the Flamels, with the reluctant assistance of Josh and Sophie, prepare for the battle to come on Alcatraz, they must face the fact that they are alone and virtually without allies. Scathach and Joan of Arc have been sent back in time, hurled through a booby-trapped leygate to the San Francisco of the pleistocene era. Sick with worry, the Comte de Saint-Germain has enlisted Shakespeare and Palamedes to stand with him as he seeks aid from Palamedes's Elder master, Tammuz, in a desperate bid to be reunited with his adored wife and Scatty. As midsummer - and the probable end of the human world - approaches, every life hangs by the slenderest of threads. It really isn't possible to say enough good things about The Necromancer, or about the entire Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel series. These books have literally everything you could possibly want in urban fantasy. There is plenty of action, and it's fast-paced, exciting and germane to the story. The plots are well-woven and carry a handful of story lines that meet and cross in the most unexpected ways. More importantly, this series has truly interesting characters, people who change and grow as the novels progress. Sure, it's catchy using famous names from the past like Joan of Arc and Shakespeare, but the fact that you know their

names isn't what makes them good characters; how Michael Scott uses and develops the characters - both the famous and the unknown - is what makes these books so compulsively readable. And very few of the humans, Next Generation and Elders you meet along this journey are either all good or all bad. They are far more richly layered than that. Almost all of them have hopes and fears, hidden motives and secret plans. It takes a writer of extraordinary talent (not to mention bravery) to populate a series of Young Adult novels with historical and mythological characters as diverse as Virginia Dare, Miyamoto Musashi, Aoife, Coatlicue, Quetzalcoatl and Prometheus - to use them and to make the story really work, mind you - but Mr. Scott makes it seem effortless and natural. Each book in this top-notch series has been better than the last. Considering the high level of the very first novel, *The Alchemyst*, that's saying something. I cannot wait to see how Mr. Scott brings every thing together in the last two volumes. While I can guess at certain possible developments, I have no earthly idea how everything is going to end. For me, that makes these books even more exciting.

Of all my favorite book series, this one is in the top 5. Make that the top 3 and climbing to the pinnacle. *The Necromancer* is the 4th in the series and they must be read in order. In this installment (only one week after the last book ended!), Josh and Sophie Newman go home only to be kidnapped (again) by an ancient vampire who happens to be the twin of their best friend. Since she has disappeared, they grudgingly join forces to find her. Both Josh and Sophie are one step closer to realizing their full magical potential and thereby either saving or destroying the world. All the main and beloved characters are back but this book shows them in a much more multi-faceted way and it's often hard to tell the difference between the good guys and the bad guys. What I love about these books is all the mythology--Greek, Roman, Egyptian, Sumerian. You name a culture--the myth is in this book, come to life. Some of the stories are known to me but many characters are unknown. I find myself constantly racing to the computer to read more and then am delighted by the clever way Scott incorporates them into the novel. And, the marriage of famous historical figures and fantasy is nothing short of genius. You literally never know what's going to happen when you turn every page of this book and I already have either bought the next ones in the series or have pre-paid for their release. I don't so much read these books as inhale them as soon as they come out. They are meant to be devoured deliciously!

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