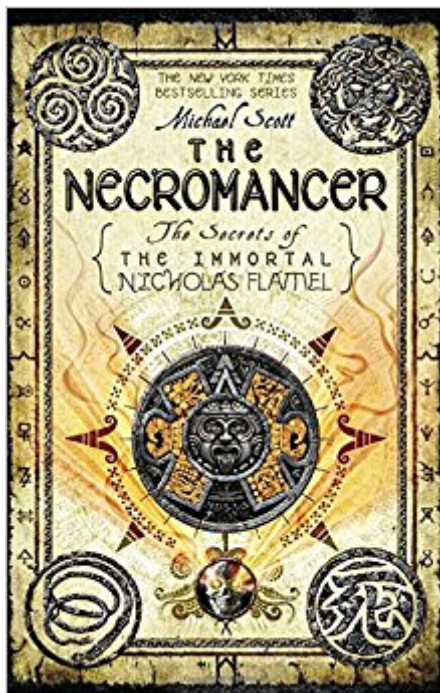


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The Necromancer (Secrets Of The Immortal Nicholas Flamel)



Synopsis

Nicholas Flamel appeared in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter—but did you know he really lived? And he might still be alive today! Discover the truth in Michael Scott's New York Times bestselling series the Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel with The Necromancer, book four. Sophie and Josh Newman are finally home, but they're both more confused than ever about their future. Neither of them has mastered the magics they'll need to protect themselves from the Dark Elders, they've lost Scatty, and they're still being pursued by Dr. John Dee. Most disturbing of all, however, is that now they must ask themselves, can they trust Nicholas Flamel? Can they trust anyone? "Unrelenting forward momentum." This book will thrill fans. School Library Journal Read the whole series! The Alchemyst The Magician The Sorceress The Necromancer The Warlock The Enchantress

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Series: Secrets of The Immortal Nicholas Flamel (Book 4)

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Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

The Necromancer, book four in Michael Scott's "Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel" series, brings the immortal Flamel (The Alchemyst) and teenaged twins, Sophie and Josh, back home to San Francisco, where they meet up with the sorceress Perenelle, Flamel's wife, who spent the last

book escaping from Alcatraz. Time is running out for the Flamels; it's now been six days since their foe Dr. John Dee (another immortal) ran off with the Codex, the book of Abraham the Mage that keeps them young, and they are aging fast. The twins, who have been learning the Elemental Magics over the course of the first three books, are worried about getting into trouble for basically disappearing for days, so they check in with their guardian, Aunt Agnes. But Scott doesn't let them settle in for long. True to the break-neck pace of this series, they are quickly pulled back into the action when Sophie is kidnapped by a redheaded vampire who bears an eerie resemblance to one of their recent allies, Scathach, who disappeared with Joan of Arc in the last book. The Necromancer introduces readers to even more infamous immortals, while keeping up with favorites from past books--Machiavelli, Shakespeare, Billy the Kid. As the characters accumulate, so do the opportunities for hair-raising conflicts and insane reveals. Scott manages their multiple story lines with a sequence of cliffhangers that keep it a really fun read even as he is piling on the history and mythology, taking readers further into the secrets that will bring the whole story together. As the characters hurtle toward a conflict that could bring about the end of the world, we can't wait to see where they'll go, what they'll learn, and who they'll meet next. (Ages 12 and up.) --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Gr 6-10 -- Nicholas Flamel is dying, and the spell from the Codex that renews his immortality is in the possession of the evil John Dee. Reunited with his wife, Perenelle, Flamel hopes to use his remaining power to prevent the monsters now on the island of Alcatraz from escaping. Meanwhile, Machiavelli and Billy the Kid have come to San Francisco to achieve the opposite, releasing the monsters to destroy the city. Twins Sophie and Josh are also back in San Francisco, where Sophie is kidnapped by Aoife, the twin sister of Scathach, the Celtic warrior who had been protecting them. Josh is beginning to doubt whether he is on the right side of things. John Dee is now persona non grata with the Dark Elders, having failed to capture the siblings in London. Trying to escape his inevitable judgment, Dee teams up with Virginia Dare to find his way to Josh so that he can train him as a Necromancer. With this power, Josh can raise Coatlicue, the Mother of All the Gods, from the dead, and thus allow Dee to take over the world himself. Depending on one's point of view, all of these plot elements can either be disconcerting or can serve to create a sense of unrelenting forward momentum, taking readers breathlessly through to the end. The end in this case is a huge cliff-hanger, carrying with it an enormous sense of melancholy and moral ambiguity. This book will thrill fans of the series who are willing to stick with it to the conclusion. Tim Wadham, St. Louis County Library, MO

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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 surprise 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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