

Queste

Angie Sage

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In the fourth book of the Septimus Heap series, Septimus, Jenna, and their friends and family return in an adventure that sees them deal with everything they haven't already encountered before, and some things that they have but just haven't wrapped up quite yet. DomDaniel's former apprentice, the cowardly and incompetent Merrin Meredith, has managed to conjure up a host of Things to help him in his revenge on Septimus and Jenna. In addition to this, he also calls forth the ghost of the Chief Hermetic Scribe Tertius Fume, who in return for this summon plans to send Septimus on a dangerous Queste that no one before has succeeded in. However, that is not the only problem Septimus and Jenna face; they are determined to find the House of Foryx, a place where time is gathered together, so that they can find their brother Nicko and their friend Snorri, previously lost in time together during the events of the previous book. In addition to that, their treacherous, villainous brother Simon Heap is also in the picture, attempting to secure his place as an ExtraOrdinary wizard. Even ostensible allies threaten to impede them. Morwenna the witch desires Jenna so that she can increase her power and reclaim artifacts stolen from her in the past by previous Queens. With all of these plots and schemes colliding, the Heaps and their friends will have to think cleverly and move boldly in order to avoid the tangled web that has been woven.

This book is much in the mold of the past three. Because of this, I did not particularly enjoy it, but the writing is very well-done and accessible to those who are interested in this genre of fantasy. I thought that it was somewhat of a regression after *Physik*, my favorite book in the series, but I must admit it upholds the standards of the previous books so that long-time fans will not be disappointed.

This book is for preteens, adolescents, and those who enjoy light fantasy that does not dwell too deeply on the darker side of the world.

Recommended Titles:

Syren, by Angie Sage

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe, by C.S. Lewis

The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, by C.S. Lewis

The Book of Three, by Lloyd Alexander

Darke, by Angie Sage