

Title: Sorcery of Thorns

Author: Margaret Rogerson

Reviewed by: Ria Chhabra, 13

Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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Brimming with magic, Sorcery of Thorns was a breathtaking, adventure novel by Margaret Rogerson! Elisabeth Scrivener was an orphan raised at the Great Library of Summershall, one of 6 enchanted libraries that held grimoires - living books of powerful spells. Raised to believe that magic was disastrous and sorcerers were dangerous, Elizabeth aspired to be a warden of the library who'd protect the kingdom from the tools of sorcery, grimoires. One night, Elisabeth awoke to find the director of the library dead and a grimoire stumbling across the yard as a Malefict. She battles this book that has transformed into a dangerous creature and destroys it, only to find herself in the library prison the next morning. Accused of the director's murder, Elisabeth is escorted to the capital for questioning by a sorcerer named Nathaniel Thorn and his demon servant, Silas. There her discoveries about sorcery are endless as she grows closer to Nathaniel and embarks on a mission to save the human world.

I especially loved how Elizabeth faced numerous internal challenges that added character depth and built a lovely, compelling heroine. At the very beginning Elizabeth left home, the Great Library, fearing sorcerers and their magic. But as she battles hideous demons, fights a frightening grimoire, and endures so many more breathtaking events, she grows more tangled with Nathaniel. He accompanies her through risky adventures across the kingdom, while Elizabeth supports him after deadly duels and uses her talent with books to lead the way for their shared mission. Throughout her journey, Elisabeth builds the fondest memories with Nathaniel and questions her original perception that sorcerers are evil. As the battle with her head and her heart grow more intense, she finally discovers her true perspective on sorcery.

This enchanting, fantasy novel had a beautiful, unique setting! Built in a world with fascinating libraries and grimoires with their own personalities, the surroundings were explained in beautiful, lush detail. From scents to overwhelming emotions, Margaret Rogerson captured the beauty, appearance of the scenery and their effect on the characters in lovely depth. The descriptions were perfect in length, never too long to bore readers or too little to wonder what that sunset felt like or that mansion looked like. It created the perfect, immersive, compelling setting that really drew readers in. Sorcery of Thorns was a stunning, captivating, adventure novel steeped with magic and I would highly recommend it for anyone 11+.

Recommended Books:

A Curse So Dark and Lonely (Cursebreakers, #1) by Brigid Kemmerer

House of Earth and Blood (Crescent City, #1) by Sarah J. Maas

Caraval (Caraval, #1) by Stephanie Garber

The Guinevere Deception (Camelot Rising, #1) by Kiersten White