

Flyte

Angie Sage

Reviewed by: Ryan Lee

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Continuing the saga began in the earlier novel *Magyk*, *Flyte* follows the developing lives of Jenna, Marcia Overstrand, the Heaps, and their newly-discovered son Septimus. Having had his identity revealed and taken in by the ExtraOrdinary Wizard, Septimus Heap, formerly known as Boy 412, is adjusting to his life as Marcia's apprentice, learning the arts of magyk. His adoptive sister Jenna, now revealed to be the Princess of the Castle, is likewise settling into her life as royalty. So far, it's been great for the both of them, surrounded as they are by family and friends eager to help them in any of their pursuits. All isn't well, however. A sinister Shadow has been trailing Marcia lately, and not even the ghost of the ExtraOrdinary Wizard Alther cannot determine why it is there. Septimus' brother Simon has become an angry, jealous, and conniving man convinced that the younger Heap has stolen his rightful apprenticeship from him, and now is engaged in dark plans of revenge that his family cannot understand. These plans eventually take shape, bringing back an old enemy, and Jenna, Septimus, and their friends and family are forced into action, delving deep into yet another adventure and discovering new wonders and dangers along the way.

Flyte is the second novel in the Septimus Heap series, and as such carries all the hallmarks of Sage's writing. It is in the same mold as its predecessor, with all the quirky characters, humorous occurrences, and unexpected plot twists that Sage delivered in *Magyk*. There is also plenty of character examination, if not development, which is executed in a narrative, rather than an expositional, style, helping to keep reader interest. While the plot is somewhat standard for children's fantasy, it is also refreshing in that Sage fully explores the world she has created instead of leaving conspicuous gaps that may or may not be touched on later. While my opinion on *Magyk* still has not been changed by *Flyte*, it is nonetheless just as well-done as its predecessor. I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys fantasy focusing more on characters and relationships rather than magic and sorcery.

This book is for preteens and adolescents, and for those who enjoyed the Harry Potter series of novels.

Recommended Titles

Physik, by Angie Sage

Queste, by Angie Sage

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, by J.K. Rowling

100 Cupboards, by N.D. Wilson

Here, There be Dragons, by James A. Owen