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Book Of The Night: The Black Musketeers



Synopsis

In this thrilling adventure by bestselling author Oliver Pötzsch, thirteen-year-old Lukas has been trained as a swordsman by his father, a nobleman who was once a famed Musketeer. When the threat of war and accusations of witchcraft spread across the land, Lukas's life is forever changed. He flees his home and vows to find his missing sister. Surviving as an outcast, Lukas encounters thieves and mercenaries, a strange astrologer, and a master swordsman. He also meets three other fencers—Giovanni, Paulus, and Jerome. Each brings a special talent to their team that leads them to the Black Musketeers, the best fighters in the army. But living with the black-armored Musketeers is nothing like they imagined. In his quest to find his sister, Lukas learns of a legendary book that holds powerful magic. As he fights to keep the Book of the Night out of the hands of his greatest enemy, Lukas discovers the secrets of his own family and what it really means to be a Musketeer.

Book Information

File Size: 1919 KB

Print Length: 306 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1503938425

Publisher: Crossing (October 4, 2016)

Publication Date: October 4, 2016

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01CQF27PW

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #12,266 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #4

in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Medieval #10 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks >

Teen & Young Adult > Historical Fiction > Medieval #27 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Military

Customer Reviews

This the first book by Oliver Pötzsch I've read. It was not billed as a YA novel, but it definitely is one. That may or may not be an artifact of the translation. Regardless, it was a decent YA novel. If that was the author's intent, then he succeeded. The background history of the Thirty Years War was sound, though only referred to in passing. The vocabulary used to describe swords and fencing techniques indicate a greater familiarity with European swordsmanship than is common among authors. The characters are more stock than flat, more routine than deeply developed. I'm sure most literate teen boys would enjoy it.

It was a good book. I enjoyed reading it but the ending is what makes me give it 3 stars instead of 4. I feel the ending really wasn't a conclusion, like there was too much set up for a sequel. The last line really should have read "Too be continued....."

This book is a departure from the author's Hangman's Daughter series. While filled with believable characters and set in well researched historical backdrops including the conflict with Swedes and mercenaries, this book veers into magic and sorcerers as well. All in all this introduces a sense of wonder that is more fun than straight history. The protagonists are young, and a few the plot twists are at times either somewhat predictable or slightly implausible, but young adults and mature fantasy readers should all enjoy this book. Looking forward to the next one in this series!

I have been reading Pötzsch's books for the past couple years and they are very interesting to me. I have an interest in German history and culture and I always learn something from his novels. This one had a lot of twists and was enjoyable to read. Having such a young hero was at times implausible, but if one uses her imagination--who cares? Of course, there was an indication that there would be a sequel to this book. I would start with his book, "The Hangman's Daughter," a very good read.

It is different from the Hangman's daughter in it involves magic elements. Historic background and really takes you into the horror of the 30yr war, and a much different view of Sweden and it's invasion during the 1600s. Mr.Pötzsch must have found a sword fighting boor from the 1600s to describe the various moves of a sword fighter and the swords used. Plot seemed to be forced, and would have gone no where without the magic elements.

I'll give Book of the Night five stars just because I like reading historical fiction, and the plot kept me

engaged. Swashbuckling war and magic make good partners. The obligatory villain is truly a bad guy, too! I've read several of P. J. Tzsch's books, and they are good at transporting me to a different place and time and cultures that are foreign to me. I'll look forward to his next book.

Book of the Night is a very well written book with a lot of suspense and a little humor thrown in for good measure. I don't know what happened, but my copy had a few places at the beginning that "skipped" and omitted a bit. I don't think I missed anything important, but it was kind of annoying! I like that the end left room for more books. I think this would be a great series.

A story of a noble boy and his sister who work their way through the perils of the 30-years war in the 1600s. This war is not the greatest of their worries, but rather the inquisitor who at first wants to kill them, but then needs them for his own selfish purposes. The first book in a series, this book sets the scene for future books very well! Appropriate for both young teens and adults who enjoy history and a bit of magic!

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