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A Drop of Night

Lori Cunningham

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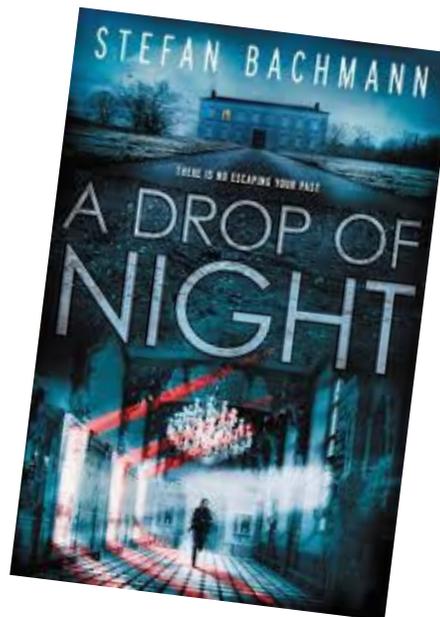
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Book Review

Title: A Drop of Night
Author: Stefan Bachmann
Reviewer: Lori Cunningham
Publisher: Greenwillow Books
Publication Year: 2016
ISBN: 9780062289926
Number of Pages: 439
Interest Level: Young Adult
Rating: Excellent



Review

Anouk—seventeen, moody—finally finds a way to escape her family: a once in a life time adventure to explore an uninhabited palace hidden underground since the French Revolution. She finds herself having to deal with four other awkward teens who have been selected for this expedition paid for by the mysterious Sapani family. Once settled in to the home above the palace things take a turn for the worse and land Anouk and the others in danger in the palace deep below. When tragedy strikes Hayden, Anouk realizes that she has to team up with Alice, Will, and Jules to make it out alive. The teens travel through the palace meeting strange people from the past, fighting off superhuman soldiers, and facing death at almost every corner. After searching everywhere with no luck, they finally find a small thread of hope, but not without trouble from blood thirsty mad men.

A Drop of Night is a fast-paced, thrill-seeking book from the very beginning. Readers follow two brave, strong-willed women throughout the story. Anouk is the protagonist, and running parallel to her narrative is Aurélie. Each page brings danger, suspense, and an unworldly feel with a slight hint of romance. The writing reads smoothly, with both main characters being engaging with the right amount of attitude. Bachmann keeps the reader hanging as the story plays out and more is revealed about Anouk's true background. The book builds on the mystery and suspense effectively, leading the reader to a sense of satisfaction once the climax of the story is reached and secrets are revealed. The book is an easy read, with plenty of details building the main two characters. Truly a great book for young readers who like strong characters and a house of mirrors.