



2009

### Lord Sunday

Gillian Streeter

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Nix, Garth. *Lord Sunday*. Scholastic Press, 2010. ISBN 9780439700900. \$17.99. 320 p.

Reviewer: Gillian Streeter

Reading Level: Intermediate, Young adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Fantasy fiction;

Subject: Space and time--Juvenile fiction; Magic--Juvenile fiction; Fantasy--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Arthur Penhaglion, also known as Lord Arthur, Heir to the Architect, has yet to claim the last Key from the mysterious Lord Sunday. His friends cannot find him, and the world Arthur comes from is in grave danger as the House of the Architect dissolves into Nothing. With war on all sides and his transformation into one the strange immortal beings of the House nearly complete, Arthur must find the last fragment of the Architect's Will and free it before it is too late.

This is a quicker read than the earlier *Kingdom* series books, partly because there are no new characters to introduce, and there is a copious amount of fast action. While the pace is swift, and the twists and turns are unpredictable, Nix's text does not feel slap-dash or thrown together. The ending is unexpected, but feels like the only natural conclusion—a hard balance to strike. Arthur's strengths remain his compassion and his humanity, and he fights to maintain them in spite of the changes in and around him. While more upbeat than Nix's *Abhorsen* trilogy, the book does not give the customary "happily ever after" or neatly tied loose ends; the destruction, pain and loss are not glorified or dwelled on, but faced.

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