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### The Magician: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel

Tessa McMillan

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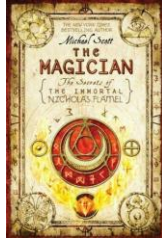
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Scott, Michael. *The Magician: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*. Delacorte Press, 2008. ISBN 9780385733588. \$16.99. 464 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Reading level: Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy Fiction;

Subject: Machiavelli, Niccolo, 1469-1527 --Juvenile fiction; Supernatural --Juvenile fiction; Brothers and sisters --Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Scatty, Nicholas, and the twins Josh and Sophie, escape Dee by traveling on a ley line that takes them to Paris, France. Dee informs an immortal working in Paris, Niccolo Machiavelli, to capture Flamel and the twins. The group meets up with Flamel's friend Comte de Saint-Germain and Comte's wife, Joan of Arc. Machiavelli knows they will retreat to Saint-Germain's home and he has it watched until Dee arrives. Dee uses the services of the Valkyries to take out Scatty so Nicholas and the twins will be unprotected. During this time Perenelle Flamel is being held prisoner on Alcatraz Island. With her natural gift of talking with the dead, she is able to escape her sphinx guard and recharge her magical powers. Back in Paris, the Valkyries release the monster, Nidhogg, and fight against Scatty, Sophie, and Joan. With the help of Excalibur's twin sword Clarent, Josh is able to destroy Nidhogg, but Scatty is still lost in the depths of the Seine. Dee and Machiavelli take Josh to get Josh's powers Awakened by the Dark Elder, Mars. With Josh's Awakening and the combined powers of Josh and Sophie, Dee witnesses that these two are the twins foretold in the Codex prophecy. Flamel and the twins escape Paris for London to seek out King Gilgamesh to continue the twins' magical training.

Scott's second book in *The Alchemyst* series gives more explanations about why certain humans are given the gift of immortality. The story is well-paced and suspenseful. It is enjoyable to see which famous figures in the world's history Scott will include in his series.

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