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The Necromancer: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel

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Scott, Michael. *The Necromancer: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*. Delacorte Press, 2010. ISBN 9780385735315. \$18.99. 389 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan Reading Level: Young Adult

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Fiction; Fantasy Fiction;

Subject: Alchemists -- Juvenile fiction; Brothers and sisters -- Juvenile fiction; London (England)

-- Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

The twins, Josh and Sophie, have returned home, but their homecoming is ruined when Sophie is kidnapped by Aoife, the identical twin of Sophie's friend Scatty. Aoife has come searching for the twins because she wants to know where Scatty is located. Scatty had disappeared in the last book with Joan of Arc in an attempt to save Nicholas Flamel's wife, Perenelle. The Flamels (having been reunited despite Scatty and Joan's disappearance) and Josh find Aoife, rescue Sophie, and try to convince Aoife to fight against the Dark Elders. Afterward, Josh is taken to Prometheus to learn the magic of fire. Meanwhile, the evil Dr. John Dee has obtained all the magical swords, and he believes the swords, not Josh and Sophie, are the answer to the Codex prophecy. But instead of helping the Dark Elders, Dee plans to overthrow them by using the swords to rule the world himself. Virginia Dare, another immortal, decides to help Dee complete his plans. Dee and Dare return to San Francisco to retrieve the Codex and to kidnap Josh. They enchant Josh and use him as their pawn. The Flamels, Sophie, and Aoife run to Josh's rescue, but because he is enchanted, Josh turns away from his sister to follow Dee.

Scott takes a lot of risks with creating this large of a story. He is continually adding new characters and new worlds. At times it can get a little confusing to keep up with the story and the characters. But his character development is complex and realistic. Again, the story is pleasantly unexpected and action packed. The next book is *The Warlock*.

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