



2010

The Youngest Templar: Trail of Fate

Tessa McMillan

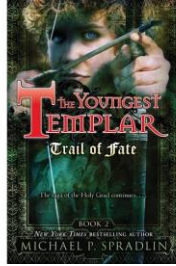
Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

McMillan, Tessa (2010) "The Youngest Templar: Trail of Fate," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 31 : Iss. 3 , Article 17.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol31/iss3/17>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.



Spradlin, Michael. *The Youngest Templar: Trail of Fate*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2009. ISBN 9780399247644. \$17.99. 272 p.

Reviewer: Tessa McMillan

Reading level: Intermediate, Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Historical Fiction

Subject: Knights and knighthood--Juvenile fiction; France--History--Philip II Augustus, 1180-1223--Juvenile fiction; Grail--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

Tristan is discovered by a group of riders after he is washed up in Southern France. The group's leader is Celia, a beautiful girl whose people are being persecuted by the Catholic Church for being Cathars. Robard and Maryam discover the group and are reunited with Tristan again. The two groups separate, but Tristan, Robard, and Maryam meet up with a regiment tracking Celia's group. Tristan and his friends decide to help Celia and her people. They travel to Celia's fortress home, Montségur, to find it under attack. The group sneaks in and helps defend it from the Catholic fighters. However, Sir Hugh turns up to aid the attackers, capture Tristan, and take the Grail. Tristan discloses his quest to his friends, and Celia helps Tristan, Robard, and Maryam escape to Calais. But, once they arrive in Calais to cross the English Channel, Sir Hugh is there to imprison the group in Eleanor of Aquitaine's castle. While trying to escape, Maryam is captured again. Sir Hugh promises to hang Maryam unless Tristan comes forward with the Grail—except, Tristan has captured Eleanor to barter for Maryam's life and their group's freedom.

Spradlin's second book holds up even better than the first in creating excitement, suspense, and strong character development. Readers will cheer Tristan and his friends on in their journey to keep the Holy Grail safe. The next and final book in the trilogy is *The Youngest Templar: Orphan of Destiny*.

Volume 31, no. 3 (January/February 2011)