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Stormbringers (Order of Darkness #2) by Philippa Gregory

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Author: Gregory, Philippa

Title: Stormbringers (Order of Darkness #2)

Year of Publication: 2013

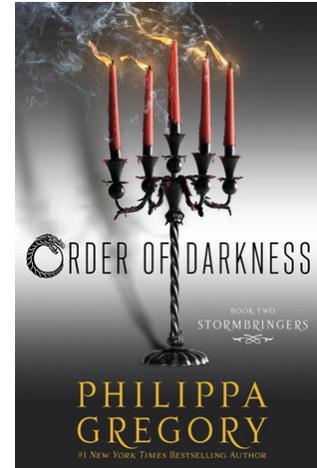
Publisher: Simon Pulse

ISBN: 9781442476875

Number of pages: 336

Rating: Dependable

Reading/Interest Level: Young Adult



Keywords: Christianity; Historical Fiction; Fantasy; Witches; Paranormal; Folklore; Myth; Pilgrimage; Flood; Superstition; Slave ships; Moses; Noah; Prisoners; Ottoman Empire; Italy; Death

Review:

In *Stormbringers* the second book of Philippa Gregory's *Order of Darkness* series, Luca, Freize, and Brother Peter along with Isolde and Ishraq continue on their quest to investigate evil. Hundreds of children led by a charismatic shepherd boy walk through the town on their pilgrimage to peacefully retake the Holy Land. Through a vision, Johann the good believes that he will take his band of followers through the sea on dry land as Moses did. Luca is ordered to go with the exodus to determine if Johann is following God or the evil one. Tragedy and destruction strike the area as other mysterious characters are introduced.

In this book Gregory skates quickly across the surface of what could be a better novel, but perhaps this is intentional since the book is quite short and easily read. Since this is a sequel this book does explain the character of Luca more fully but Isolde, continues to be a flat, uninteresting character. The strength of this novel lies in the description of the times, habits and lives of the people. Gregory aptly illustrates the superstition of uneducated people living in medieval Europe as they try to understand and explain disasters and tragedies that happen in their village. The plot of this book twists and turns in unexpected and unpredictable ways. Foreshadowing is used to create tension and anticipation for the next installment, but as it contains deaths from natural calamity and ends on a dark note some readers may find it upsetting.

Reviewer: Cynthia Frazier

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