



2017

The Keepers #2: The Harp and the Ravenvine

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Book Review

Title: The Keepers #2: The Harp and the Ravensvine

Author: Ted Sanders

Reviewer: Becky Jamieson

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books

Publication Year: 2016

ISBN: 9780062275851

Number of Pages: 653

Interest Level: Intermediate

Rating: Significant Shortcomings



Review

Horace, who can see up to one day in to the future, and Chloe, who can walk through walls, are no longer the newest Keepers on the block. They are veterans being asked to use their magical objects to protect the storehouse for such tools from their enemies, the Riven, once again. The Riven are following an animal empath named April with a broken object called the Ravensvine. They save April with the help of Chloe's long lost mother who has the ability to stop the Riven with a magic-controlling harp. They are able to fix the Ravensvine, but Chloe doubts that her mother is back for the family she walked out on, and suspects that she is only there to get help with the harp which she cannot fully control. Meanwhile, Horace learns that using his future seeing box hurts the source of magic itself.

The biggest strength of this story is that it gave the characters another chance to do interesting things with their fun and unique magical implements. Each tool has its own powers that add to the experience for readers, and the addition of the harp and Ravensvine increases the depth of the world. However, this story also has many weaknesses. The story does not hold readers enthralled because the action is slow paced. Part of this is because the characters spend a great deal of time complaining and distrusting each other, which slows down the story. Another weakness of the book is the wandering plot. The first part of the book focused on April, but when her problem was resolved the book continued to have another climax focused on Chloe and her mother. These multiple climaxes left readers floundering when trying to consider the book as one fluid story.

*Contains moderate violence.