



2018

Suitors and Sabotage

Meagan Andrus

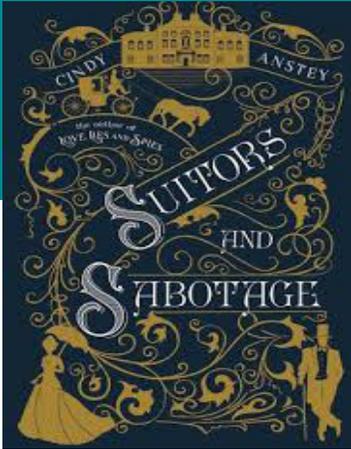
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Andrus, Meagan (2018) "Suitors and Sabotage," *Children's Book and Media Review*. Vol. 39 : Iss. 5 , Article 71.

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Book Review

Suitors and Sabotage

Author

Cindy Anstey

Illustrator

Reviewer

Meagan Andrus

Rating

Dependable

Level

Young Adult

Pages

325

Year

2018

Publisher

Swoon Reads

ISBN

9781250145659

Imogene Chively has just returned from her Season in the town and anticipates a summer filled with romantic glances, walks to castle ruins, and sketching with the kind, book-loving Ernest Steeple. What she doesn't anticipate is doing all of those things with Ernest's younger brother, Ben. As an aspiring architect, Ben needs to learn to draw better than his current ability, and Imogene is soon given to be his tutor. As they spend more time together, Imogene and Ben realize that the feelings they share are deeper than Imogene's feelings for Ernest. To make matters more complicated, a series of incidents befall Ben and the youth soon realize that the incidents are not isolated nor accidental. It takes many outings, conversations, and misunderstandings to unravel the mysteries of the romantic relationships and the curious incidents, but all ends happy—eventually.

This book is an earnest first take for young readers on the Regency period. The author does a good job of providing accurate details for the time period and keeping her characters within the bounds of the Regency era. The characters themselves are a bit over dramatic at times, which could be exasperating for older readers but permissible for younger readers. The plot itself tends to drag in certain areas—Ben has many unfortunate accidents waylay him, without any resolving whatsoever until the very end. The romance is overblown and cliché, with Imogene sighing every few minutes and Ben not being able to take his eyes off of Imogene's curves and sparkling golden hair. All in all, this is a decent book that will likely delight young romance fans and introduce them into the wonderful world of Regency literature.

*Contains mild violence/perilous situations.