Sorcery and Cecelia or The Enchanted Chocolate Pot: Being the Correspondence of Two Young Ladies of Quality Regarding Various Magical Scandals in London and the Country by Patricia C. Wrede and Caroline Stevermer

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Author: Wrede, Patricia C. and Stevermer, Caroline

Title: *Sorcery and Cecelia: or The Enchanted Chocolate Pot: Being the Correspondence of Two Young Ladies of Quality Regarding Various Magical Scandals in London and the Country (Cecelia and Kate #1)*

Year of Publication: 2004

Publisher: Harcourt/Graphia

ISBN: 9780152053000

Number of pages: 336 p.

Rating: Excellent

Reading/Interest Level: Intermediate; Young Adult

Keywords: Cousins; Letters; Epistolary Novels; Supernatural; London, England; 19th Century; Fantasy.

Review:

Magic and mischief are afoot and Kate and Cecelia are making the most of it. Kate is in London with her relatives for her first Season, while her cousin, Cecelia, is stuck in the country. To amuse and keep each other informed, they maintain contact by post. When Kate stumbles across a plot to destroy their mysterious neighbor, the Marquis of Schofield, all the picnics and balls in Society cannot make up for the adventure of a magical scandal as the ladies intervene. Working together by letters, they risk life and glove to discover and smash a chocolate pot so they can bring evil to justice.

Wrede and Stevermer team up to serve an entertaining blend of sorcery and Regency England sure to make any Jane-Austen-ite chuckle. The novel, composed only of the correspondence of both Cecelia and Kate, is full of tongue-in-cheek wit and humor, composed of writing and vocabulary recalling the feel of the period. Because of this, it is not recommended for younger readers or teens without the background knowledge so support their understanding. Because the novel was written with no pre-planned plot, it is somewhat foggy and lost at times, regardless, it is a diverting romp of enchantment, mishap, and romance perfect for anyone needing an Austen-era fix.

Reviewer: Laurien Clay

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