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The Wizard Heir ((The Heir Chronicles, Book 2))



Synopsis

Sixteen-year-old Seph McCauley has spent the past three years getting kicked out of one exclusive private school after another. And it's not his attitude that's the problem. It's the trail of magical accidents--lately, disasters--that follow in his wake. Seph is a wizard, orphaned and untrained--and his powers are escalating out of control. After causing a tragic fire at an after-hours party, Seph is sent to the Havens, a secluded boys' school on the coast of Maine. At first, it seems like the answer to his prayers. Gregory Leicester, the headmaster, promises to train Seph in magic and initiate him into his mysterious order of wizards. But Seph's enthusiasm dampens when he learns that training comes at a steep cost, and that Leicester plans to use his students' powers to serve his own dangerous agenda. In this companion novel to the exciting fantasy *The Warrior Heir*, everyone's got a secret to keep: Jason Haley, a fellow student who's been warned to keep away from Seph; the enchanter Linda Downey, who knew his parents; the rogue wizard Leander Hastings, and the warriors Jack Swift and Ellen Stephenson. This wizard war is one that Seph may not have the strength to survive.

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Customer Reviews

Sixteen-year-old orphan Seph McCauley is a wizard, one of the Weir, an underground magical society first introduced in companion novel *The Warrior Heir* (2006). But Seph has had no wizard training, and magical mishaps occur wherever he goes. When one such accident causes a death, Seph is sent to the Havens, an exclusive boys' school in rural Maine, where he finds the Alumni "a

student group of wizards led by Headmaster Leicester. Seph is excited to explore his gifts, but when Leicester attempts to initiate him with a terrifying blood ritual, the teen realizes that this training comes at the price of his soul. In his combined independence, bravado, and vulnerability, Seth is an appealing character, making the psychological torture Leicester inflicts upon him all the more horrifying. Unfortunately, the pace lags once Seph escapes Leicester and the Havens, at which point new and returning characters appear, and the chaotic politics of the Weir come to the forefront. Persistent readers will find that the momentum picks up again, though, and most will emerge satisfied by this absorbing, suspenseful follow-up. Hutley, Krista Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In this companion to *The Warrior Heir* (Hyperion, 2006), orphaned Seph, 16, is an untrained wizard who can fling fire from his fingertips. After one of his many accidental fires kills a friend, he's sent to a secluded boys' school in Maine. The headmaster, Dr. Leicester, a powerful wizard, offers to train him. Initially, Seph agrees but then changes his mind after he's nearly forced to participate in an initiation where he's made to swear an oath to Leicester and allow him to link Seph's power to his. For refusing, Leicester tortures Seph with hallucinatory dreams that nearly drive him insane. When he finally finds a way to communicate with the outside world, Linda Downey, an enchanter, rescues him and takes him to the town of Trinity, OH, a sanctuary for wizards and other members of magical guilds. There, he meets many of the characters who appeared in the first book, including Jack Swift, Ellen Stephenson, and Leander Hastings, as well as a new character, Madison, who can draw power from wizards. Seph and his new friends must find a way to stop an impending war between the two great wizard houses. This exciting page-turner is darker than *The Warrior Heir* and, because of its depiction of Leicester's love of inflicting pain and frequent violence, is more appropriate for older readers. SLJ"

This book entranced me! I could not put it down for even for a minute. Seph has been struggling with being a wizard in a world of Anaweir, the non-magical. He grew up with a foster parent after being told his parents had passed in a car accident. He wanted more information when he stumbled upon the truth. The records were all fake. When he is sent to the Havens, a school for troubled students, he finds out he is not alone. But is it worth giving up who he is in order to learn about his powers? The headmaster gives him the choice and opportunity. Seph follows his gut which screams at him that something isn't quite right. He is tortured in ways he has never known possible. Each day at the

Havens in a struggle. Linda Downey shows up and pulls him from the school - thank God!! - he is still being hunted. Wanting to know more, he asks anyone he can for information, but Linda blocks him. She may know more than she is willing to divulge. This book has it all. You will be sucked into Seph's world, and you will never want to come out. The strength he displays and his courage is inspiring. You will fall in love with Seph from early on.

I really liked that this was a clean book for teens/youth. It is a very different story than the first of this series and there is no intersection until 1/2 way through. It makes it nice as it introduces new characters and a lot of development from the first book. It was not a re-hash of the original characters or story. This could have stood on its own, but it is more enjoyable that it integrates the independent story into the known universe and interacts with the old characters well. I'd recommend this to those who like youth fiction, crossover/mashup stories (wizards in the modern era), and fantasy fans.

This book is the sequel to The Warrior Heir and...was pretty good. First of all, there was the story, pretty original, enjoyable and interesting. Some exciting aspects were the action and unpredictable plot twists. It was well written, with lots of character development. It's even evident for Jack, the main character of the first book, who is changed by his previous experiences, He is not a naive kid anymore and has a harder time trusting people because of the thick deceit that used to surround his life. Seph, the main character of The Wizard Heir, changes from the beginning to the end. While he is at the Havens, a 'reform school', he undergoes torture and cruelty, as well as having friends killed off by the evil Dr. Leicester. After he leaves the Havens, he is emotionally and mentally stronger, and he even says that he became "insensitized". At the same time it is hard for him to talk about his horrific experiences at the Havens. Ellen has also learned to relax, since she is not being used for someone else's agenda for once. What makes it 4 stars instead of 5? Pacing, and not creative solutions to the story's problems. I feel like I should have liked this book more than I did. I liked it well enough, but it was easy for me to become distracted while reading this book. I actually started it in...March? But then a book I wanted to read more came out, so I read that instead. I just picked it back up on Sunday. With an amazing and breathtaking read my eyes can be glued to the words all day, but with The Wizard Heir, I found myself starting to just want to check the computer for stuff or go do something else. One big problem was the pacing. Seph spends the first 200 pages in the Havens, and about half of that time going like this, "My dreams were filled with torture. I looked worse every day. The Alumni kept pushing me to join them. Leicester knows I can't hold out much

longer." It just got boring. When Linda finally gets him out, I was hoping the story would finally begin. It got better, but the pacing was just too slow, with too many unnecessary descriptions. Another thing is that many times that there seemed to be any unsolvable problems, Chima would simply introduce a new character who would change the rules. This happens when Linda gets Seph out of the Havens, when Ellen saves Madison and Seph from the Alumni, SPOILER when Jason shows up in the basement where Hastings and Seph were being kept, and more. SPOILER END. So overall, a book that I would rather have borrowed from the library than bought, but I'm still glad to have read it. FOR MORE GO TO [theteenagebibliophile\(dot\)com](http://theteenagebibliophile(dot)com)

"The Wizard Heir" is the sequel to "The Warrior Heir" a fairly good book that I read some time back, and the second in a trilogy. Chima's stories can be rather predictable, as I believe I already covered in my review of the first book. Before even picking up this book, I read the excerpt included at the end of "The Warrior Heir" and the description on the cover of this book. Before I even opened this book, I figured out the mystery of the parentage of Seph, the new protagonist replacing Jack for this book. After finishing it, I can say that my first instinct was 100% correct. Does that say something about it? However, I'm not the kind of reader who has a book ruined for me just because I know the twist that's coming. If anything, it strengthened my interest, because this new wizard heir fellow suddenly had a connection, in my mind, to two characters I was familiar with from the first book, not just some random new guy tossed up who I had no connection with, butting out the characters I actually did like. I'm glad I did, because after reading through this book, I came to like Seph a lot. In truth, I think it was an improvement to shift to his POV, now. Jack was still a bit too much of a Standard Teenaged Male Protagonist, and I think I like him better when he's put into the role of a secondary character who still has an important role to play but is no longer the protagonist. We see his POV here still, along with several others, but Seph's is the main one. I approve of the way Chima handles her POV characters, and it is a much needed relief after "The Wheel of Time" which despite its quality suffered from the problem of too many POV characters who simply weren't interesting. Chima enriches the story with her careful selection of these characters rather than bogging it down with them. This book was enjoyable throughout, a definite improvement in characterization and story over "The Warrior Heir," thanks in no small part to the characters having already established themselves in the first book, and the unimportant ones having reduced or nonexistent roles. (Goodbye, Fitch. Sure won't miss you.) Seph had the bulk of the character development, though not all of it, but that wasn't a problem, since with a few exceptions, this was more about seeing the characters I already knew in action than watching them make serious

changes. I think Chima is quite a bit better about writing about established characters than developing new ones, as I didn't think much highly of the character development in the first book. However, Seph's is definitely an improvement. I enjoyed the ending as well, particularly as the penultimate chapter carried a revelation regarding the identity of the Dragon that I hadn't seen coming. I'd thought I had the obvious suspect nailed early on, only to have that expectation brilliantly dashed in what was perhaps the one twist that wasn't predictable. I was impressed. All in all, "The Wizard Heir" is an improvement over the first book and well written for what it is. Will I get the third book, "The Dragon Heir"? Probably, and if not immediately, eventually. In terms of story and such, this series is not really extraordinary, which is why it doesn't rate five stars from me. It's good, but not particularly great, and I don't really feel any rush to go get the last book. However, I do plan to finish it eventually, as Chima is obviously improving as an author. "The Wizard Heir" gets a solid four stars, with hopes here that the third book will improve even farther.

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