REVIEW: Cynthia's Attic: The Magic Medallion

Rebecca Ziegler
Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq

Part of the American Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol45/iss3/25

This Review is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Library Quarterly by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.
Cynthia's Attic: The Magic Medallion by Mary Cunningham

Good children's stories are usually enjoyable and thought-provoking for adults as well as children. This time-travel adventure by Villa Rica, Ga., author Mary Cunningham includes plenty of excitement for young readers: a sinister clown, a helpful Gypsy family who can work magic, a treasure hidden in a cave, a forest fire and an apparently threatening horseman in pursuit of our heroines, best friends Cynthia and Augusta (“Gus”). But it also sounds some themes that will intrigue adults. One of these is the ties that bind us to our ancestors, which include not just our genes, but, often, the objects that have passed from their lives into ours and the places that have been significant to a family over generations as well. Cynthia and Gus time-travel to their grandmothers' childhood from the attic of Cynthia's family home by putting on their ancestors’ clothes. Another theme is the desire to know what our parents and grandparents were like before we were born when they were young. Yet a third is dreams, with their combination of eerie familiarity and strangeness — a topic that has fascinated human beings throughout history. Mary Cunningham got the idea for the Cynthia's Attic books when she had recurring dreams about the attic of her childhood best friend. When she began writing this series, the dreams stopped. Cynthia's Attic: The Magic Medallion is the second book in the series. This 50-something reader is sufficiently intrigued to go back and look up the first book, Cynthia's Attic: The Missing Locket, and to eagerly await the appearance of the third, Cynthia's Attic: Curse of the Bayou. »

— Reviewed by Rebecca Ziegler
Georgia Southern University

Keturah and Lord Death by Martine Leavitt

Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers Nominee

Sixteen-year-old Keturah follows a hart into the woods of medieval England, becomes lost, and after three days, Lord Death arrives to whisk her away. Putting her storytelling skills to use, Keturah bargains with Lord Death, promising to finish her story of a young woman seeking true love if he will grant her one more day of life. In addition, Lord Death responds that if Keturah can find true love in the one day she is granted, he will not take her at all. Besides agreeing to her terms and granting the extra boon, much to Keturah’s surprise and dismay, Lord Death states that he plans to make her his bride and shares the startling news that she is the second book in the series. This 50-something reader is sufficiently intrigued to go back and look up the first book, Cynthia's Attic: The Magic Medallion, and to eagerly await the appearance of the third, Cynthia's Attic: Curse of the Bayou. »

— Reviewed by Candace Craig
Walton/Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School Head Librarian

Georgia Library Quarterly Fall 2008
Published by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University, 2008