

Foreword Review ROMANCE

The Order of the Eternal Sun

Jessica Leake

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Lucy Sinclair is learning more than dance steps for her debut into Edwardian society. She's also gifted with arcana, a special magic that allows her to bring her drawings to life. It's a family gift, passed from mother to daughter, and carefully guarded against the Order of the Eternal Sun, which serves the powers of darkness. Lucy is transported to the world of Sylvania, where she practices arcana "to the soothing sounds of the brush on canvas, the sweet smell of the paint, and the beauty of the creamy white turning blue."

Although Jessica Leake's prose is heady and dense, *The Order of the Eternal Sun* tends towards dreaminess. There is little romance for Lucy, as she struggles to master arcana while resisting the dark plot of an evil brotherhood. An abundance of story lines adds plot, but Leake keeps the action in the background, focusing on Lucy's burgeoning artistry.

This carefully crafted novel buzzes with magical and historical details.

CLAIRE RUDY FOSTER (Fall 2016)

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