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The Snow Globe (The Winterhaven Chronicles Book 1)



Synopsis

By day, Sondrine Renfrew works at Cimmerian's Curio Emporium, her aunt's apothecary and antique shop in London, 1875. By night, she weaves fire, water, and air into both inanimate objects and living creatures. When a hooded stranger offers Sondrine a snow globe in trade for medicinal herbs, she accepts, enchanted by the castle, forest, and sea encapsulated under the glass. Her enchantment fades, however, when her deceitful aunt betroths her to one of London's wealthiest men—a complete stranger. Determined to escape the marriage, Sondrine trades her corset for trousers and decides to run away. With one foot out the door, she falls down a veritable rabbit hole into Winterhaven, the haunting world inside the snow globe. Sondrine soon discovers her arrival in Winterhaven is no accident. There, she meets Shafin, a man who broods more than the darkened sky above. Turns out Shafin is not to be trusted. Not only is he the man who sold Sondrine the snow globe, he is a bounty hunter employed by the king. The beginnings of a sovereign war have been set in motion and an Immortal queen, one who uses fire as a weapon, is set on destroying Winterhaven. Because of her Elemental gifts, only Sondrine has the means to stop the queen. If Sondrine refuses the king's request, he will behead her. If she rises to the challenge of killing the Immortal queen, her death is just as imminent. After all, an Immortal queen cannot be killed. Or can she?

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Customer Reviews

Nothing is as it seems in Winterhaven, especially for Sondrine Renfrew of the Other World. She always knew she was different. If not the magenta tipped curls she had snipped only to see grow back, then most definitely because of the elemental powers she possesses. Still, the Cimmerian's Curio Emporium in London, England had always felt like home. Until her Aunt forces a decision on Sondrine in an attempt to push her out. A decision that tips her world upside down, turning her seemingly predictable life into a flurry of emotions and decisions. Still, her life had few complaints, save her bitter Aunt. But a visit from a stranger with a mysterious Snow Globe changes everything, shaking up all she thought she knew and believed possible. The Snow Globe is an unforgettable experience. I was fully immersed in the expansive worlds, creatures, characters and their magical abilities, mysteries, and adventures. The writing is beautiful, with lush descriptions and ample dialogue, and fully captures the old-timey feel of Victorian England. I devoured each word! I have a weakness for rich speech and Jenna Nelson did not disappoint. The world building is incredible, multi-layered, and stretches the imagination to explore both what is ethereally beautiful and disturbing. And the humor... Oh the humor! It's snarky, dry, fantastically witty, especially the bickering between Sondrine and a certain young man. Overall, the story line is clever and engaging. I will never look at a snow globe the same again! Highly recommended for all who enjoy fantasy and quest-like adventures. Jenna Nelson, I can't wait to read book two! I leapt with Sondrine and must know what awaits her and me!

Others have adequately summarized the plot, so I won't do so in this review. This book is interesting, I would like to compare it to an evil Alice in Wonderland. Winterhaven is an off kilter dangerous place that uses much of Victorian culture to inform it, perhaps with less whimsy than Wonderland (or even Burton's pastiche Underland) but I feel the comparison is apt. The prose is an homage to the Victorian style as well, overladen with adjectives. I was fascinated by the story, enough so to keep reading, but I can't say that I liked any of the characters. I will read the second book when it is released, but I doubt I will re-read this one. All said this book is decent fantasy,

much better than many on the market, but I think it falls short in ways I cannot disclose without spoilers. I hope that you give it a chance.

I thought this book was so cool! No pun intended, I do love Winter and Snow and this was just perfect. I loved all of the characters. I thought the main character, Sondrine was just snarky enough. Sondrine decides to run away because her aunt is going to marry her off to this guy and she's having no part of that. So when she heads for the door to run away, she ends up in the snow globe world. I thought this was a great adventure, I have never read a book set in a snow globe before. There is an evil King and on the other side and evil Queen and all kinds of stuff going on in between. MY FULL

REVIEWS: http://melissa413readsalot.blogspot.com/2016/01/the-snow-globe-by-jenna-nelson_6.html
<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show/1428728290>

For some we reach a point where no matter the author or the tale, all of the stories fall flat. They all seem the same within a genre. This was me and fantasy so I searched for other stuff to read. I took a chance on this book and glad I did. The characters are believable and the story flows well enough to make it an enjoyable read. When I had the time to read I went through it quickly and eager to turn the pages. The author nor anyone else asked me to review this book, I did not receive freebies, coupons, or discounts. Yes I recommend this book.

Clever and imaginative, this book describes a world of constant winter, and the fantastical inhabitants of that land. The author is skilled enough to shift tenses (past to present, and back) without the shift being intrusive. Generally, I dislike that in a book, but Jenna Nelson pulls it off without a hitch. The story is quite original, and the language beautiful, and richly descriptive. This is a YA book that can be read and enjoyed by full-fledged grownups. Definitely recommended.

If you like to read books with vividly drawn, engaging characters in whom you want to invest your time, and if you love the idea of a magical realm with secrets, mystery, deceit, romance and adventure, then I highly recommend to you The Snow Globe! I am an exceptionally S-L-O-W reader, and because of this, it is essential to me that I care about the characters I'm spending my time with. The author does a marvelous job creating intriguing characters and bringing them to life before your eyes, and I loved being able to actually envision the people and places she creates because of the exquisite detail. The writing is top notch, with a vocabulary that is both challenging and appropriate

for the time period, and the dialogue is realistic. If quality of writing matters to you, you will not be disappointed in this author's prose. Along with dynamic characters, the storyline is definitely unique, enchanting, and kept me hooked from start to finish. I found the pacing to be quick, but so is the urgency of Sondrine's journey, and never once was I disinterested or wishing the story would move on. Given that this is the first in a series and one never knows whether you'll feel "satisfied" at the end of the first book, I was extremely pleased with how the ending ties up some immediate concerns but leaves many unanswered questions and a great deal of room for the story to grow. It left me wanting more!! I would highly recommend The Snow Globe for children in the "tween" years (if they are somewhat sophisticated readers, as many kids are) AND adults alike. As an adult, I can't wait for the next installment!

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