

The Warlock Study Guide

The Warlock by Michael Scott (Irish author)

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Plot Summary

This book is the fifth book in a series about the adventures of Nicholas Flamel and others in his world. The characters in this book either want to save the ancient city of Danu Talis, which would mean the destruction of what is the current world, while others want the city to fall as it did in the past in order to save the present world. The battle has begun over Danu Talis, and this battle will continue into the sixth and final book of the series.

The Warlock begins just as Josh, Dee, and Virginia flee from Dee's burning office. Sophie has betrayed Josh, in his eyes, by whipping a creature he had just brought into the world. He thinks she has been corrupted by the Flamels, while she thinks he has been corrupted by Dee. As the story continues, it is clear that Josh is the one who has been corrupted. Dee and Virginia plan to return to Danu Talis to take over the world; Virginia wants power and Dee wants the knowledge taking over Danu Talis would give him. Josh is told that by following them and bringing the Elders back to the world, peace and love would return to the world. By the end, Josh has changed a great deal. He has a much harder and colder look in his eyes. This is due not only to spending time with Dee and Virginia, but also from spending time near the Coward's Blade, Clarent. This sword has a history of corrupting its users.

Sophie, unlike Josh, does not enjoy the power she has. She wishes for life to return to normal, but after spending much of the book with Tsagaglalal, the Flamels, and the other warriors, she finally begins to accept her destiny. Although she agrees to help save the world, she really hopes to save Josh in the process. Throughout her life, she has only truly trusted him. She is not willing to believe like the others that he is a lost cause. Tsagaglalal has foreshadowed that their next meeting will be short and unpleasant. Sophie waits for their next meeting with excitement and, without thinking, grabs Josh's hand and jumps into a dark, silent, scary hole.

The book ends with a huge twist as it is realized that Sophie and Josh's parents are not who the twins think they are. They are the immortal and powerful Isis and Osiris. The next book will continue to exciting saga.



Prologue, Chapters 1-4

Prologue, Chapters 1-4 Summary

This book is the fifth book in a series about the adventures of Nicholas Flamel and others in his world. The characters in this book either want to save the ancient city of Danu Talis, which would mean the destruction of what is the current world, while others want the city to fall as it did in the past in order to save the present world. The battle has begun over Danu Talis, and this battle will continue into the sixth and final book of the series.

The Prologue is written by Prenelle Flamel on the night that Nicholas Flamel, her husband, might die. He has used the last of his strength to track Josh and Dr. John Dee. Dee had changed the boy into a nechromancer and had him call forth Coatlicue, an Archon. When Sophie, Josh's sister, arrived, he did not join her; he stayed with Dee. This was too much for Nicholas. Nicholas and Perenelle's allies are all trapped in various shadowrealms and times and/or weakened. Only Sophie remains somewhere in San Francisco. Perenelle must find Sophie and instruct her. The events of this day were told to her many centuries before; she knows what she must do.

In Chapter One, Anpu, tall jackal-headed warriors, poured out of a cave surrounding Xibalba; when the Anpu were satisfied that Xibalba was deserted, a couple who had recently been in a perfect copy of Danu Talis entered. They were headed to the Crossroads; there was so little time left. The couple stepped into the dark cave mouth and instantly appeared dressed in white t-shirts, white jeans, and black sun glasses at Point Zero before Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

In Chapter Two, John Dee's London office is on fire. Moments before, Josh's sister, Sophie, had arrived and painfully whipped the beautiful and defenseless archon Coatlicue he had just brought into the world. Aoife had then jumped on Coatlicue's back and dragged her into her Shadowrealm. Dee told Josh that death and destruction follow the Flamel's and that Josh had been "about to begin a process that would have turned this earth into a paradise" (p. 9). Dee tells Josh that Coatlicue would have remade the world, repaired it. Sophie is lost to Josh. Josh does not trust Dee, but he trusts him more than he trusts the Flamels, who had used both him and his sister, the twins of legend. As they race out of the burning building, Virginia Dare tells Dee that death and destruction also follow him. Dee defends himself he is nothing like the Flamels. Dee uses his aura to free them, which will send a signal to all creatures his location. As they leave, Josh says that those following them may already be there.

In Chapter Three, Mars Ultor is trapped and thinking about the memories he has left of his life and immortality. He is woken up in his prison that covers his entire body except for his eyes by the couple in white, Isis and Osiris. They tell him that Dee, who had helped to trap Mars, had betrayed them all. They tell him that Coatlicue had been let loose; this creature had killed many of their friends and family members. Dee has been



declared utlaga by this couple for his many failures. Because of this, Dee wants to destroy them all. His wife, the Witch of Endor, Zephaniah, the one who had trapped him here for so many centuries, had asked this couple to meet her here. She tells Mars she has come to free him; the world needs a warlock.

In Chapter Four, two police officers stop Josh, John Dee, and Virginia Dare outside the building. Dee attempts to reason with them, but Virginia tires of this and uses her wooden flute's magical notes to knock the police officers' unconscious. Dee and Dare do not care about the lives of these officers but Josh does. He threatens Dee and Dare with Clarent, an ancient and powerful sword. They take the officers to their car, but Dee warns him about his conscience; it could lead to his demise.

Prologue, Chapters 1-4 Analysis

The Prologue catches reader up on what took place in the previous four books. There is trouble everywhere, and the protagonists and their allies are weakened, trapped, or dying. Will the good side prevail? This diary entry into the Day Book of Nicholas Flamel, Alchemist prepares the reader for a sense of foreboding.

Chapter One describes the movements of an unknown couple. It is not known why they are in such a hurry and whose side they are on. This chapter gives more background information into the world of this book with its shadowrealms and various mythological creatures. Details from the previous are slowly given to the reader to catch him or her up on what had taken place earlier in this story.

Chapter Two gives the reader more information into the background of this story. At this point in the story, Josh and his twin are separate both physically and in their beliefs of who to trust. Josh has lost faith in the Flamels, while Sophie must still side with them. It upsets Josh greatly that Sophie is not on his side, but he feels he must do what he believes is right. Though he feels he can trust Dee more than Nicholas Flamel, he still is not sure if he is doing the right thing. This raises questions for a reader who has not read the previous books how this came to be. Why does he not trust the Flamels? How have he and his sister been separated? This chapter ends full of suspense as Dee, Dare, and Josh may be caught.

Chapter Three gives the reader more background information into the history of this world and its creatures. The most important part of this chapter is the arrival of the Witch of Endor, Mars' wife. It is unknown at this point in the book why she had trapped him there, but she has come to free him. As in the other chapters, a sense of anxiety and desperation permeates this chapter. The world is desperate for a warlock, although it is not known what he is capable of doing or why he is needed. This does explain the title of the book, so Mars will become a very important character throughout this book due to his connection with the title of the book.

Chapter Four shows that Josh still has a conscience, which is significant in this battle for the world. Dee warns Josh of this conscience because he sees empathy as a



weakness. This could foreshadow major differences in Josh and Dee that could lead to an ending of their partnership. Dee does as Josh wishes simply to keep his loyalty. Dee must really need Josh for his plans to be successful. Every creature seems to be against Dee and his allies, but why? What has he done? Is he bad? Are the others bad?



Chapters 5-8

Chapters 5-8 Summary

Chapter Five starts by saying the world is ending. Prometheus is driving a Jeep with Perenelle Flamel and her dying husband, Nicholas Flamel, as Prometheus' Shadowrealm collapses around them. Helping the Flamels track Josh had weakened Prometheus that now the world he created could not continue; he was barely able to keep it together as he drove the Flamels and himself to Point Reyes. He is very upset that his Shadowrealm and its people have been destroyed because of the Flamels. He agrees with Scathach that death and destruction follow the Flamels.

In Chapter Six, Sophie and the Japanese warrior Niten are escaping Dee's lair. Sophie is clearly upset that her brother Josh did not join her and chose to stay with Dee. She keeps repeating that Josh is gone. Niten feels her pain but tells her to survive but with the courageous triumph. Niten is taking Sophie to Tsagaglala, She Who Watches.

In Chapter Seven, Perenelle tries to calm Prometheus down. She knows that she and her husband have been followed by death and destruction, but it is not their fault. It is their destiny. She knows Nicholas is dying, and she feels relieved. All this running, hiding, and fighting will soon come to an end for both of them. She must keep him alive. She was told her future many hundreds of years ago by a one-handed man, Marethyu. His name means death. Everything that he has said has come true. Perenelle wants to go to Tsagaglala.

In Chapter Eight, Nicholo Machiavelli and Billy the Kid are deep under Alcatraz. They discuss their lives as immortals and Billy the Kid admits there is much he does not know. Machiavelli agrees to teach him if he will keep his mouth shut for the next ten minutes. As he says this a monster comes out of the shadows, and Machiavelli tells Billy to be quiet.

Chapters 5-8 Analysis

Chapter Five reiterates a point made earlier that death and destruction follow the Flamels. This most likely will be important throughout the rest of the book as the reader follows the Flamels and others on their adventure to save the world. This repetition about death and destruction is also a trait found in Dee. What else do Nicholas Flamel and John Dee have in common? How might this affect those that follow them?

In Chapter Six, Sophie is distraught over the loss of her brother Josh. Her repetition that Josh is gone shows the pain she feels and the impact this has on her and most likely on those who she supports. Josh is her very powerful twin and is no longer on her side. Who has chosen correctly, Josh or Sophie? Loss is clearly a theme in this chapter, as well as in the rest of the book. Many characters have lost loved ones and friends during



this ageless battle. Since the fall of Danu Talis, various sides have been trying to gain control and do what they believe is best for them and/or the various worlds.

In Chapter Seven, more information is given on Danu Talis and the Flamels. Like Sophie, Perenelle is headed to see She Who Watches. Who is this woman? How will she be important? Why do they all want to go to her?

In Chapter Eight, the relationship between Billy the Kid and Niccolo Machiavelli is strengthen as they discuss their very similar immortal lives. This closer relationship will most likely prove important as the story progresses. It also adds a lightness to the story, as Billy the Kid comes across very human, especially when he sees a monster appear at the end of the chapter.



Chapters 9-12

Chapters 9-12 Summary

In Chapter Nine, Marethyu is showing the island of Danu Talis to Scathach, Joan of Arc, Saint-Germain, Palamedes, and William Shakespeare. When they act confused, he explains they have stepped back in time ten thousand years, before the Fall. He explains that the island must sink; if it does not, the world as they know it will not exist. The Elders working under Isis and Osiris have been plotting to save Danu Talis, and Marethyu tells them that they must prevent this from happening. He knows this to be true, because Abraham the Mage told him that is how it is to be. Suddenly, a blue electrical charge is sent coursing through Marethyu's body, and Vimanas, saucer-shaped metal discs, appear. Scathach recognizes these vehicles as belonging to the Anpu; they are all in trouble.

In Chapter Ten, John Dee guides Josh as he drives them away from the burning building. Josh is still unsure about what has taken place between him and his sister; he feels that he has failed to protect her, as he promised he would. Virginia almost gives away some secret between her and John Dee about what he had promised her; when he gives her a look, she quickly changes what she is saying to match what John Dee must have told Josh. Dee has the book given by Abraham, but he does not know that Josh still has two pages of the Codex hidden under his shirt. Josh trusts him more than Nicholas, but he does not fully trust him. As the trio tries to escape being found, Dee fills the other two that Machiavelli and Billy the Kid are on Alcatraz and that he has been instructed to collect monsters to set loose on San Francisco. When questioned about why Machiavelli and Billy are on the island, he says that plans must have changed. Suddenly, they notice Sack Men following them; these creatures will report to higher beings that they have found Dee. Dare uses her flute powers to crash their bikes. Dee says he will no longer be the hunted; he will hunt the Elders. He offers them both power over Shadowrealms if they will stand by him. He will destroy all the Elders by going back to Danu Talis and killing them then, when they were all in one place.

In Chapter Eleven, Odin, the one-eyed Elder, walks across an unknown metal Shadowrealm. As he looks into the amber stone on his staff, he sends a bit of his aura into it. Then, he is able to see how beautiful this Shadowrealm had once been. He is also able to make out the creature that was following him. This once beautiful and now decrepit female approaches him. It is Hel, Odin's niece, and she tells him she wants what he wants, revenge on Dee who has destroyed their Shadowrealms. He does not agree with her. Isis and Osiris had offered her beauty for the location of Dee; they know that she has sent the Sack Men to find Dee. She said she does not know exactly where Dee was; she wants to find him first and get her own sort of justice. She produces a cell phone with Dee's picture on it and will take Odin to Dee.

In Chapter Twelve, Sophie and Niten arrive at Sophie's Aunt Agnes' home; Sophie is worried about her aunt noticing that Josh is not with Sophie, which is unusual. Sophie



plans to quickly get a change of clothes before they continue on to find Tsagaglala. Niten makes Sophie aware of the smell of ancient magic, jasmine. He tells her that immortality is a gift that one should take if offered it; unlike others such as King Gilgamesh, he believes immortality is what you make of it. They approach Aunt Agnes, and she speaks to Niten in Japanese, and the scent of jasmine was very strong. She sees the memories of another and remembered why jasmine seemed so familiar to her; it is her aunt's favorite perfume, as well as the scent of Tsgaglala, She Who Watches. Sophie loses consciousness.

Chapters 9-12 Analysis

In Chapter Nine, the history of Danu Talis is given. What is also given is that Isis and Osiris plan on saving Danu Talis. Although this may at first seem like a good plan, it means the changing of the entire world and the demise of millions of creatures. It questions who is right. Should Danu Talis be saved, so that those living in this world will continue to prosper? Or, should it be destroyed to save all those creatures and worlds that will exist in the future? This chapter shows that there is no simple right and wrong, good and bad. There are many possible ideas that all contain good and bad points.

In Chapter Ten, it is clear that Dee is keeping information from Josh. He seems to be feeding him a lie, and Josh's conscience allows him to believe Dee when he says he wants to repair the world. His desire for power and his request that Dare and Josh help him shows his true intentions; he wants power over all. A connection is then made between them and the group at Danu Talis. The difference is that Dee wants to kill everyone on Danu Talis, and not simply destroy the island and send the Elders scattering.

Chapter Eleven reveals more creatures who are against Dee and his plans. Dee has many enemies for the destruction of many Shadowrealms and creatures. This conflict is shaping up to be those for preserving the Shadowrealms and their many creatures versus those who want to destroy the Shadowrealms and their beings.

Early in Chapter Twelve, Niten tries to prepare Sophie for seeing her aunt as she truly is by mentioning the scent of jasmine. At the end of the chapter, Sophie puts the clues together and realizes her aunt is actually Tsagaglala. This of course is shocking and she passes out. Although this news is foreshadowed, it also comes as a surprise to the reader that Sophie's aunt is an immortal. Her name, She Who Watches, is significant, because it seems she has been watching the twins of legend, but why? Whose side is she on? Nothing is turning out to be as it first seems, which is becoming a theme in this book. It is difficult to tell who is on the good side. All the characters are flawed so that the reader feels much like how Josh and Sophie feel; who is right? What is best for this world?



Chapters 13-16

Chapters 13-16 Summary

In Chapter Thirteen, Abraham the Mage is in his tall and slender glass tower. Abraham tells the redheaded warrior Prometheus that Danu Talis could be gone. Abraham will be gone soon as well; the Change had already begun to take place in him. This happens to all Great Elders; in his case he is slowly turning into a beautiful gold statue. He would still be alive, but unable to speak or move. Prometheus has come to tell Abraham that the strangers have appeared as Abraham said they would and have been taken away in the vimanas. Abraham says they are lost to him now and they are all doomed. The world now will end.

In Chapter Fourteen, Niccolo Machiavelli introduces Billy the Kid to Nereus, the Old Man of the Sea. Nereus has been instructed to assist Niccolo with guiding the amphibious creatures that are trapped in Alcatraz to the city. They discuss what creature should be set loose first. It is decided that the Lotan, a seven-headed dragon, would make a strong statement.

In Chapter Fifteen, the Sack Men are still following John Dee, Josh, and Virginia Dare as they drive through San Francisco. Virginia uses her flute to send seagulls to attack the cyclists. This trio arrives on Treasure Island. They plan on getting a boat and heading to Alcatraz, the last place anyone would look for them.

In Chapter Sixteen, Sophie wakes on her bed in her aunt's house believing the past few days had only been a dream. She feels a sense of relief and cannot wait to tell Josh all about her crazy dreams. This soon ends when she sees Niten and her aunt watching her; she begins to weep. She misses her brother, and she does not know who to trust. She comes into her aunt's room and finds Nicholas Flamel dying. He has less than a day to live.

Chapters 13-16 Analysis

In Chapter Thirteen, the reader meets Abraham the Mage, one of the most important characters in the book. He had a purpose for the arrival of the strangers, but now it seems the plans he had for them are no longer possible. Did he plan to use them to save Danu Talis or to make sure it was destroyed? When he says the world now ends, does he mean Danu Talis or the worlds that are later created after the sinking of Danu Talis if Danu Talis survives? Prometheus is significant in this chapter, because this is the first of the known characters to be shown earlier in his life, as his current self is with the Flamels.

In Chapter Fourteen, Machiavelli, Billy the Kid, and Nereus are making plans for letting loose the monsters on Alcatraz. The release of these monsters means the beginning of the end of this world. This heightens the sense of urgency found in this book, because

this chapter reveals there is little time left for the Flamels and their allies to stop the release of these monsters and the destruction and chaos that would ensue.

In Chapter Fifteen, Josh's growing confidence and ability to control his aura is shown. He is growing more powerful and therefore more useful to Dee. Virginia shows her abilities with the magic flute; she is shown to be a force to be reckoned with. Dee and Machiavelli will be brought together if Dee makes it to Alcatraz. Will these two be able to be allies?

In Chapter Sixteen, while Josh seems to be enjoying his power, Sophie wants it all to be a dream. Nicholas Flamel is about to die. Is he really going to die? What does this mean for the others and the world? How important is he?



Chapters 17-20

Chapters 17-20 Summary

In Chapter Seventeen, Isis and Osiris walk along the Seine in Paris discussing this world they had created and the other failed worlds that had preceded it. They come across Zephaniah, the Witch of Endor. She has spotted them and calls them over. She knows about the plans of these two that she calls "petulant children." They plan to undo the past. She at first opposed it, but later realized others would help keep the balance between destroying the past and keeping it. That was until these two found Dr. John Dee. He is out of control, and his actions threaten every Shadowrealm. Looking into the future, Zephaniah sees Dee safe, the ruler of this Shadowrealm. Now, events have changed and his plans are even more grandiose. The reason the book was created by Abraham was for this time when Dee would be declared utlaga, when he would plan to go back to Danu Talis and destroy everyone. She had kept her husband, Mars, protected under a curse for this day; Mars has gone to San Francisco to kill Dee.

In Chapter Eighteen, Josh is steering the boat headed for Alcatraz. Dee is seasick, Josh and Virginia are enjoying his illness by going faster. As they get closer to the island, Dee remembers that Nereus' daughters, the Nereids, are guarding the island. They are to kill anyone who attempts to get to the island. They are in trouble.

In Chapter Nineteen, Tsagaglalal and Perenelle Flamel are waiting for Sophie to join them. Sophie is reluctant to join them; she is not sure if she can trust the Sorceress. Perenelle explains to Sophie that she and Josh were chosen before they were born to fulfill the prophecy. Josh had chosen to follow Dee. What is Sophie going to do? She says she will go after Josh, because humani will do anything for those they love. Perenelle says that before she goes after Josh, they need her to help save the world. Like Hekate, a goddess with a young, middle-aged, and old face, these three women could have power by combining together. This trio can save the city. Sophie decides to help Tsagaglalal and Perenelle and then go after her brother. The chapter ends as Perenelle is told that her husband's time has come.

In Chapter Twenty, the group on Danu Talis watches as the flying saucers, Vimanas, land. They first take Marethyu. The others know they are all in trouble, deep trouble. The Vimanas then carry the rest of them to a prison. Scathach thinks about her family on Danu Talis and what her life was like growing up after the Fall. She and her sister were resented by their parents, because they had been born after the sinking of their precious island. Scathach wonders if they were happy on this island. She returns to the present and they all realize where they are headed. This is no ordinary prison; it is the mouth of an active volcano.



Chapters 17-20 Analysis

In Chapter Seventeen, John Dee's plan is now known; his power is also known, so all that are against him are trying to create allies with one another. Fortunately, the Witch of Endor has prepared for this time. Now that Mars is free, he may be able to stop Dee. Zephaniah seems pretty sure that this is possible. Only time will tell.

In Chapter Eighteen, this trio is once again in trouble. They can never seem to catch a break. The author uses cliffhangers at the end of many of their chapters to emphasize how often they find themselves in trouble.

In Chapter Nineteen, Sophie makes a difficult decision to help others before she helps her brother. Sophie shows her bravery by choosing many humans over one and trusts that she can save her brother afterwards. The chapter ends anxiously as Nicholas is about to die. If he dies, what does that mean for his allies? Will Perenelle allow him to die? She tells Sophie that humans will do anything, everything to save those they love. What can Perenelle do to save Nicholas?

In Chapter Twenty, those trying to preserve Danu Talis' future have been imprisoned. This could cause many problems for those trying to protect the events that take place leading to the fall of Danu Talis. Without this core group, those who want to save the island and those who want to completely destroy all those living on the island have a greater chance of success. Once the chapter ends in suspense as these main characters are dropped off into a very unusual prison.



Chapters 21-24

Chapters 21-24 Summary

In Chapter Twenty-One, Dee tells Josh to drive through the Nereids. This works at first, but soon they are surrounded and being pulled under by these strong fish women. Josh uses his intelligence, and the abilities of another whose memories he has, to scare away the Nereids temporarily. They continue on towards Alcatraz Island.

In Chapter Twenty-Two, Nicholas is close to death and Perenelle asks to be alone with him, Sophie, and Tsagaglalal. Perenelle needs their help to revive Nicholas for one more day. She tells Tsagaglalal and Sophie about her encounter with Death and his prophecy for her future. She knows that she has the ability to give Nicholas one more day of life for one of hers, but she needs Sophie and Tsagaglalal to give her their auras.

In Chapter Twenty-Three, Scathach thinks about how she has always been able to free her friends and herself from various prisons and entrapments, but she is not sure about this volcanic prison. They could all be in deep trouble. Although Joan of Arc has faith in Scathach's abilities to free them, Scathach is not so sure.

In Chapter Twenty-Four, Josh docks the boat and see Virginia sitting with her flute. She had gone overboard earlier when a Nereid had grabbed her flute. This Nereid is no more. The color suddenly leaves Dee's face, and Josh and Virginia wonder what is wrong. Machiavelli and Billy the Kid arrive, and Machiavelli calls Dee out on the facial expression he had just had. It is the look he gets when he has an incredibly stupid idea. He tells Josh he is surprised he is still with Dee and then tells Dee he was just reminding Josh that he still had choices. Josh likes Machiavelli better than Dee because he possessed the humanity that Dee lacked. When Billy asks Josh which twin he is, the one to save the world or the one to destroy it, he replies seriously that he does not know. When Machiavellis says they are about to awake Loten, the seven-headed monster, the pieces clicked together in Josh's head, and he really begins to wonder if he is the twin to destroy the world. Virginia lags behind the others, waiting for Dee. She tells him she knows he is plotting and he says he is planning "something truly daring and audacious." (p. 165)

Chapters 21-24 Analysis

In Chapter Twenty-One, Josh's mind holds the memories of another, but who? These memories seem to be those of a strategist and without them, Josh would not have necessarily been able to save them from the Nereids. Like his sister's abilities to recall information from the memories of the Witch of Endor, when Josh is in need or someone triggers these memories, he can recall information from someone else's mind. Would he be so capable and powerful if he did not have this other person's memories?



In Chapter Twenty-Two, these three women talk about the importance of love for the human. This is an important theme throughout this book, because it is what makes humans unique from all other creatures. It is what gives them the willpower to continue and greatly influences their actions. It is also what separates Nicholas and others from Dee and his allies. Love is also about sacrifice. Those who love are willing to make sacrifices for those they love. In this case, Perenelle is willing to give up a day of her life so that her husband may have one more. This reinforces the power of love.

Chapter Twenty-Three reinforces how trapped these characters are. The entire chapter talks about Scathach's abilities in the past to free herself and others and how she is not sure she can do it this time. This reiterates to the reader how strong this group of people are and how able they are to control others. It also gives the reader a sense of anxiety for these allies, because if this group is trapped, who will protect the future of the world?

Chapter Twenty-Four shows the beginning of understanding that Josh may truly be the twin to destroy the world, but what will he do about this? Dee has come up with a dangerous plan, but it seems to be destined to fail. Frequently when others have mentioned Dee's abilities, they say that his grand ideas often do not pan out. It seems that this plan might easily fail.



Chapters 25-28

Chapters 25-28 Summary

In Chapter Twenty-Five, Aten, the Lord of Danu Talis, watches the Vimanas rise out of the volcano and learns what has been done with the prisoners. Both he and his brother, Anubis, were experiencing the change. Aten's body was growing elongated and Anubis' head was becoming that of a jackal, like the anpus he had created. Anubis believes the visitors should be killed, but Aten wants to protect them, because he realizes they are part of his world's fate. When Anubis questions Aten, Aten grows angry and threatens to kill him if he continues to question him or attempts to act behind his back. The fact that Anubis is Aten's brother and he loves him is the only reason why Anubis is still alive.

In Chapter Twenty-Six, two teenage hoodlums watch as a large, but seemingly harmless drunk walks past them. They plan on attacking him and stealing his nice leather clothes and money. As they approach him, he quickly throws one onto the hood of a car. After the creature gets directions to a home from the other and tells him he is not to terrorize the neighborhood any longer, the teenager attempts to attack him. This teenage hoodlum also ends up thrown onto the hood of a car.

In Chapter Twenty-Seven, Sophie knew instinctively that Perenelle asking to use her aura was wrong, but Perenelle and Tsagaglalal convince her to use her aura to help Nicholas. As they prepare to give their auras to Perenelle, Tsagaglalal brings over a scarab beetle that she had kept for this very moment. Both the Book and the scarab had been given to her by her husband, Abraham the Mage.

In Chapter Twenty-Eight, Billy the Kid notices that Machiavelli is deep in thought. Both he and Machiavelli are not happy about letting the creatures loose on San Francisco. Billy shows Machiavelli how skilled he is at reading other people's body language. He can tell that Machiavelli is not afraid of the creatures in the cell. Machiavelli agrees; he is much more fearful of humani and their relatives than any other creature; humani can plot whereas other creatures can only focus on the present. Billy and Machiavelli debate over the issue of breaking an oath; the oath they are discussing is the one in which Machiavelli agreed to unleash the creatures on the city. Neither of them wants to let these creatures create chaos, but Machiavelli is wondering if this is a good enough reason to break an oath.

Chapters 25-28 Analysis

Chapter Twenty-Five introduces two new characters, both gods once worshipped by the ancient Egyptians. Like many other characters in this book, these two resemble the gods from a culture's mythology, brought to life by this author. Like many real royal families, these two brothers are at odds as one secretly tries to dethrone the other. What role will these two characters play in the fate of those imprisoned?



Chapter Twenty-Six shows the return of Mars since his many centuries of imprisonment. He is very powerful, violent, and ruthless. He feels no regret at ending the lives of these two teenage hoodlums. It is clear why his wife had imprisoned him so many years before. He acts swiftly and violently which could get him into a great deal of trouble and cause problems for those on earth. It is also understandable why she has let Mars go; he may be very useful in the battle that is to come.

Chapter Twenty-Seven gives the reader more information about Tsagaglalal and Abraham. The memories Sophie was seeing are explained. The young woman had been Tsagaglalal and the man turning into a statue had been Abraham her husband; this explains why the young woman had been crying when she left him. This chapter also gives a great deal of background information about the characters and the purpose of the scarab beetle. This is an important moment for these three women; their powers will grow strong together to give Nicholas one more day of life. Although, it is understandable why Sophie sees this as wrong. Besides the fact it would drain both her and Tsagaglalal of their auras, at least temporarily, the combining of their auras is sure to draw attention from all the creatures searching for them. So, this leads to the question of whether Perenelle is doing this for herself or for her husband's cause.

Chapter Twenty-Eight shows Machiavelli and Billy the Kid to have consciences; this is the one characteristic that separates them greatly from Dee. At this point in the book, it is clear that Dee is the bad guy, the antagonist. Due to the fact that many of the other characters having feelings and emotions towards others, it is obvious that the one main character who does not care about others would be the one who is bad. The others may have flaws, but they show empathy towards others, so they are redeemed in the eyes of the reader.



Chapters 29-32

Chapters 29-32 Summary

In Chapter Twenty-Nine, Sophie and Tsagaglatal hold hands with the Sorceress, who takes part of the auras so that she is able to give some of her aura to Nicholas. Perenelle says it is very important that Nicholas get one more day of life. As the women held hands, Sophie understood why she was reluctant to partake in this. She has the Witch of Endor's memories and did not want the other women to know all that she knew; as they held hands some of their memories could be felt by the others. Sophie began to wonder how long her family had been watched by Aunt Agnes and others and why they had been watched. She wanted to talk to Josh about this; as she thinks this, he is there. She is in his mind watching what is taking place around him. She knows he is on Alcatraz. When Dee and Virginia sense something is going on, she leaves Josh and comes back to the present. Nicholas is beginning to twitch, and the three women are growing tired and weak. Prometheus storms into the room asking what they are doing. Niten and Prometheus demand that the Sorceress stop. She refuses, but Sophie lets go of her hand and ends the aura connection. Perenelle wants to give Nicholas more of her aura, but Prometheus tells her she is done. As the chapter ends, Nicholas opens his eyes and asks what he missed.

In Chapter Thirty, Marethyu is led through the halls of the Palace of the Sun, wrapped in unbreakable stone chains. Upon arriving at a door with a shape similar to his hook in the lintel, he is invited in to meet with Aten. Marethyu breaks the stone chains easily and the two men chat about what knowledge they possess. Death explains why Danu Talis must fall; if it does not, the De Danann empire will destroy itself and the rest of the planet within one generation. Marethyu asks Aten to become a warlock, an oath breaker. He must betray the city to Death.

In Chapter Thirty-One, Josh suddenly knew the names of the creatures in the cells on Alcatraz; he then realized his sister was with him. Suddenly she was gone when Josh was asked by Virginia what was wrong. They came to the conclusion that Sophie was checking up on Josh. Virginia asks him about his relationship with Sophie and if he would do anything for her; he said yes. When asked about the Flamels, Virginia responds that they are really bad. When Josh asks other questions, Virginia tries to avoid answering them directly. She does explain the purpose for the monsters. The Elders will come and "save" the world from these monsters; they will then be worshiped as gods and have power over the world. Dee has forced the Elders to change their plans and the plans are moving faster than once expected. Josh tries to figure out why the doctor has made the plans he has made. Virginia responds that he is full of plans. She whispered to herself that his plans usually go wrong; Josh caught this comment.

In Chapter Thirty-Two, Anubis and his mother, Bastet, watch as Aten talks with Death. They plot to overthrow him by throwing the prisoners, Death, and Aten into the volcano. Only then will Anubis and his mother gain control of Danu Talis.



Chapters 29-32 Analysis

Chapter Twenty-Nine is an important chapter as Nicholas is, in a sense, raised from the dead. This use of the women's aura to give him an extra day poses the question, did he need an extra day? Was his life worth revealing their auras and drawing attention to them? Was this simply a selfish act by Perenelle to keep her husband with her a little while longer? The end of this intense chapter gives the reader and the other characters a short respite from the drama that fills this book. Nicholas wakes and wonders what he has missed; this bit of humor is needed as much of the rest of the book is anxiety-filled and dramatic.

Chapter Thirty gives another reference to warlocks with a new understanding that a warlock is an oath breaker. The other known oath breaker so far is Mars. Who else will become an oath breaker? Being trustworthy and keeping one's word is very important to all the creatures that exist in this world and its various Shadowrealms. It is so important that there is a name for someone who does not keep his or her word, and this word seems to practically be a curse word. In our own world, keeping one's word is important, but not to the extent it is in this world. Often in our own culture, oaths are made but infrequently kept. Some examples include peace treaties with various Native American tribes, oaths to serve the people of our country honestly and diligently, and marriage oaths to support one another in sickness and in health. Coming from a society such as this, it is somewhat challenging to understand the importance placed on keeping one's word.

Chapter Thirty-One shows Josh beginning to trust Virginia Dare, which is most likely a dangerous idea. He is beginning to grow comfortable around her and may give away information he should not give away. Dare also slips up by saying that Dee's plans usually go wrong. What might Josh think of this? Most likely his doubts about and mistrust in Dee are growing larger. Dare's comment that the Flamels are very bad supports the theme that there is no absolute good or evil in this world. All creatures have flaws as well as noble qualities.

Chapter Thirty-Two reveals a new character, Bastet, and a new plot regarding Danu Talis. This once again brings up a theme of power. Most of the characters fight for or against saving Danu Talis for the sake of power. They want power for themselves or others. In the case of the characters in this chapter, Anubis wants the power his brother currently has and Bastet seems to be using her youngest son as a tool to regain the power she once had over Danu Talis.



Chapters 33-36

Chapters 33-36 Summary

In Chapter Thirty-Three, Mars Ultor was worn out from his trip from where he had been trapped to San Francisco. He was very out of shape! As he rests, a jeep pulls up holding Odin, Hel, and Black Hawk. They have come to take him to Tsagaglala. They have all been enemies in the past, but they are drawn together by a common enemy, Dee. The chapter ends as Mars launches himself and his sword at Prometheus.

In Chapter Thirty-Four, Virginia tells Dee that she has been talking to Josh. Like Josh, she is curious about his plan. He says his plan has changed; this angers Virginia, because she has given up her peace and solitude to assist him. He says he not only will keep his promise to give her this Shadowrealm, but she will be able to have all Shadowrealms. Dee is only interested in the knowledge he can gain by taking over Danu Talis; knowledge is all that matters to him. Virginia likes the idea of being empress of all; Dee tells her to keep quiet and watch closely.

In Chapter Thirty-Five, Machiavelli and Billy the Kid discuss Virginia and whether or not she can be trusted. The answer is no and that she cannot be trusted. Billy gives her history as a loner living in the wild, controlling the animals. They then discuss what would happen if Dee's plan succeeded. Machiavelli has been thinking a great deal about his wife, Marietta, and how she was disappointed when he seemed to care little for others. Billy asks if Machiavelli sees the people of San Francisco as faceless masses or as individuals. Niccolo responds that he sees them as individuals. His thoughts make him a warlock; Billy likes the idea of being a warlock.

In Chapter Thirty-Six, Scathach is clueless as to how to escape from the prison. This leads her to think about her sister, Aoife, who was always a great strategist and might know what to do. She tries to contact her through her mind and ends up seeing a dark space with an evil creature lurking nearby. She wonders if her sister is in trouble. She wonders if it was time to finally make amends. Suddenly a flash of crimson streaks across the sky; at least fifteen vimana flying in the sky. Scathach decides they must capture one of the vimana to escape, but her plan is changed when a large rukma vimana, a battleship, drops straight into the mouth of the volcano.

Chapters 33-36 Analysis

Chapter Thirty-Three brings former enemies together as allies against a common enemy, Dee. Dee's list of enemies continues to grow; his plan had better be good, or his life will surely be ended by any number of creatures. This chapter shows how on edge the characters are and how they are unused to being on the same side. Being allies may take some getting used to.



Chapter Thirty-Four explains why Dee wants to take over Danu Talis. Surprisingly, Dee is not interested in having physical power over others; he wants their knowledge. Knowledge, rather than power, is what he wants; but, by knowing all, Dee would have power over everyone. Dee is very confident that his plan will work, but it has already been foreshadowed to fail. Many characters have said that his plans usually fail. Will Virginia trust him? Will her desire to have power over others keep her tied to Dee?

In Chapter Thirty-Five, more warlocks emerge as Niccolo and Billy decide they do not like Dee's plan and will most likely act against him. This chapter shows a very human side to Niccolo that reveals how different he is from Dee. Billy the Kid is surprisingly smart and cunning; he is able to talk Niccolo into considering becoming a warlock. The most important aspect of this chapter is that Dee is not only gaining enemies, he is losing allies. None that are with him trust him; Virginia is only siding with him because of her lust for power. If for some reason it seems that she will not be given this power by Dee, she will most likely turn on him.

In Chapter Thirty-Six, more about Scathach's background is given as she thinks about her life and her relationship with her sister, Aoife. The multiple vimana reveal that something significant is taking place. What has taken place? How will this affect the prisoners?



Chapters 37-40

Chapters 37-40 Summary

In Chapter Thirty-Seven, as Mars moves to attack Prometheus, Niten stops him. This leads to a fight between Mars and Niten. Tsagaglatal finally gets in the middle of it and stops them, telling them to stop misbehaving. She sends them inside for tea.

In Chapter Thirty-Eight, Perenelle explains to Nicholas what he has missed. Perenelle places the scarab beetle around his neck. When Nicholas asks why she gave him part of her aura, she says she did it for selfish reasons, she "did not want to live a day without" him. (p. 249). Nicholas wonders at the silence downstairs. Perenelle responds that they are all afraid of Tsagaglatal because they know what she is.

In Chapter Thirty-Nine, Billy the Kid tells Josh that it is showtime; the monsters are to be released on San Francisco. Nereus appears and asks who wants the Lotan. Dee says he wants it, so Nereus hands him a small egg and tells Dee to not let go. Nereus cracks the shell, and the Lotan painfully latches onto Dee's hand, sucking his blood. Once Nereus leaves, Billy and Virginia come over to Dee and pry the Lotan off his hand. It is then dropped into the water to grow; it is time to run.

In Chapter Forty, Marethyu and Aten race down a narrow tunnel to a vimana. Aten knows that he will most likely die for his decision to allow Death to escape. Marethyu tells Aten they will meet in the future; he knows this because he has been there. The vimana dives down beneath the surface of the lake with Death as its passenger. Anubis arrives too late to catch Death, and has his brother put in chains. He calls him a waerloga. Aten agrees that he is a warlock.

Chapters 37-40 Analysis

Chapter Thirty-Seven is humorous as these big, dangerous warriors fight like children. Tsagaglatal shows herself to be a mother figure to all of these fierce warriors; her control over them all is revealed in this chapter.

Chapter Thirty-Eight is a quiet moment between Nicholas and Perenelle that shows the love they share for each other. This chapter also reveals the real, and selfish, reason for why Perenelle brought Nicholas back to life. This shows her flaws as well as her humanity, which is common throughout much of this book and in most of the characters.

Chapter Thirty-Nine supports the theme that things are not always as they seem. The Lotan, a very dangerous seven-headed monster, is barely an inch long when it is given to Dee, yet with a little water, it will become a ferocious beast. This chapter also reveals that Nereus and Josh seem to have met in the past. Josh does not remember it, yet Nereus is sure he knows him. Did they meet in a past life? Is there something that Josh

does not know about himself? Is Nereus confused? Only time can answer these questions.

Chapter Forty reveals yet another warlock. Breaking oaths has become a common thing to do among the characters in this book. This can be viewed in a couple of ways. In the first scenario, these characters can be viewed negatively as those who go against their word. Secondly, they can be seen as brave individuals willing to go against their word by openly defying those to whom they made oaths. By doing this, they are admitting that they are flawed and do not believe in their original oaths; they also put themselves in great danger.



Chapters 41-44

Chapters 41-44 Summary

In Chapter Forty-One, all of the creatures gathered at Tsagaglatal's home are getting along and enjoying the little party. Sophie is surprised they all are getting along, but Tsagaglatal tells her it is tradition; they must get along in her presence. The Flamels appear and join the party. Soon Tsagaglatal gathers them all around her; she has something to share with all of them. Letters from her husband, Abraham, are written on emerald tablets. Each one reads the letter specifically meant for them.

In Chapter Forty-Two, Sophie reads her tablet. This letter explains how Abraham has followed her ancestry for ten thousand years and sent his wife to guard the females in her family lineage. Tsagaglatal's brother did the same for the men in the family. Abraham explains about the various possible timelines and how he worked to make sure she and her brother's timeline would succeed. Individuals have a great deal of power over events, and Sophie is a particularly powerful individual. She will have to trust Abraham and save the world. The cost will be high, but she must make a choice; will she save the world or destroy it?

In Chapter Forty-Three, Josh, Dee, Niccolo, Billy, and Virginia watch as the Lotan quickly grows in size. Niccolo asks Dee about his plans after the creature is unleashed. Dee explains how releasing the monsters is a distraction, so he can further his own plans without problems from the Elders. Niccolo and Billy do not want him to release the creatures. They ask Josh whose side he is on, Dee's or Niccolo's. With influence from Clarent, the sword, he chooses to side with Dee. Virginia knocked Niccolo and Billy unconscious using her magical flute. She also decides to teach Josh the Magic of Air. Niccolo and Billy are put into cells before they wake up, and the Lotan is sent on its way towards San Francisco. They all head inside to unleash the rest of the creatures.

In Chapter Forty-Four, everyone has stopped reading their tablets and have similar looks on their faces. Several are crying; these were deeply personal messages. Tsagaglatal describes the terrible time around the fall of Danu Talis and how John Dee plans to make sure this never happened. Since the fall was necessary for the current life forms and worlds to exist, they are all in agreement that Dee must be stopped. At some point in another book when Perenelle had been on Alcatraz, she learned from a ghost there all that was to take place regarding Dee and his allies on that island. Most of those gathered are sent to stop the Lotan and protect the city. When Sophie asked about Josh, Perenelle told her he was a lost cause.

Chapters 41-44 Analysis

Chapter Forty-One is an odd gathering of enemies, allied against Dee and peaceful in the presence of Tsagaglatal. The fact they obey her shows the power she has over all of



them. This chapter is also humorous and somewhat light-hearted in its oddity. After all the action that has taken place in the book, a party of sorts feels very strange. The mood turns serious when the emerald tablets are passed out; these raise questions. What is written on these tablets? If Abraham knew all of these creatures would gather here, does that mean there is no free will?

Chapter Forty-Two is very important, although most of it is not new information. It repeats the prophecy that one of the twins will destroy the world and one will save it. So, which one will Sophie be? This letter puts a great deal of pressure on Sophie; it is time for her to make a very important decision, not only about her own life, but about the millions that exist and have existed since the fall of Danu Talis. In our own lives, we must make important decisions that not affect us but those around us. Often we feel like Sophie, wanting life to be sweet and easy; also like Sophie, we quickly learn this is often not the case. Life is filled with many choices and it is our responsibility to choose wisely.

Chapter Forty-Three displays Clarent's power. Josh is tricked by the sword into believing that Dee is the one to follow; he could very easily turn into a monster like Mars. Josh's trust of Dee will most likely lead to his downfall; it is clear that Dee is evil and a liar, yet Josh is still deceived. This is a very sad chapter, for it seems Josh is a lost cause.

Chapter Forty-Four is another chapter full of sadness. They have all received similarly difficult messages as Sophie, and Sophie learns that Josh is lost to Dee and his allies. There is a sense of hopelessness as the chapter ends.



Chapters 45-48

Chapters 45-48 Summary

In Chapter Forty-Five, the prisoners hid in safety as the Rukma vimana and smaller vimana crashed into the cave; only Scathach remained in the cave mouth to watch the anpu attempting to maneuver one of the smaller vessels. As the Rukma vimana crashed into the walls near Scathach, she leapt up and caught hold of it. As she was about to lose her grip, Joan called to her to let go and land on top of the one she was on. As the women were about to be thrown off as the vessel crashed into the Rukma, Palamedes grabbed them both and set them down on the wing of the Rukma vimana he was on. The war ship had come to save them, steered by the Prometheus of this day. Abraham's voice is heard on the vimana's communication system calling for their help.

In Chapter Forty-Six, Sophie needed some quiet time to think, so she headed to what she and her brother had called the Secret Garden, an overgrown section of their aunt's yard. When she arrived, she realized she was not alone. Tsagaglatal was sitting waiting for her.

In Chapter Forty-Seven, Tsagaglatal tells Sophie she had created this garden spot for the twins. The two women talk about how life has changed in the past week and Sophie's reluctance to accept her destiny. They discuss the actions of others who have prepared the path for Sophie and others. Tsagaglatal tells Sophie that she and her brother are on an Auspicious Thread of time, and everything was done to protect it, to ensure it would exist. Abraham created the Codex for the twins; it is filled with the world's knowledge and can only be read by humani. Both she and her brother, King Gilgamesh, were granted immortality to protect the twins and the emerald tablets. The Flamels had overstepped their bounds by searching for the twins, but the twins were destined to find the Flamels anyway. Tsagaglatal sees immortality as a curse. She hopes that when the Codex is found, Josh can return to King Gilgamesh to give him the spell that would make him mortal again. Tsagaglatal would like to be human again and die in peace. She tells Sophie that a tablet was made for Josh as well. It could have easily been him there with her and not Sophie. It is time for Sophie to decide what she is going to do; she must trust her instincts and nothing else. Tsagaglatal asks to teach her the Magic of Earth.

In Chapter Forty-Eight, Virginia and Josh discuss the movements of the Lotan as it swims closer to San Francisco. Suddenly a sphinx appears and startles them but leaves just as quickly as Virginia puts the flute to her lips. She teaches Josh the Magic of Air and how all magic is based on one's will and imagination. The most significant skill Josh is shown is how to levitate and eventually fly. Virginia knows that Josh has two pages of the Codex, but trusts that he will give them to Dee when he feels it is the right time. As the chapter ends, they hear Dee's scream and go running to find out what has happened.



Chapters 45-48 Analysis

Chapter Forty-Five is an exciting chapter full of action, drama, and surprises. This is the beginning of the battle over Danu Talis.

Chapter Forty-Six is a very calm chapter after the excitement of the previous one. Sophie is alone with her thoughts for most of this chapter, which gives the reader a clear picture of her thoughts and anxieties regarding her life and the future. This chapter also reveals a lot about the Witch of Endor's personality.

Chapter Forty-Seven gives much information about the past and how this past has led to the present. It shows Sophie how significant the past has been to her own life and the lives of millions of others, to urge her to save the world. She can connect to this because our own world's past is intimately linked to the present and future. The actions of those in the past are still seen today in cultures around the world. We have a responsibility to protect the world on which humans have lived for centuries.

Chapter Forty-Eight is important as Josh grows closer to Virginia as she teaches him the Magic of Air. Josh continues to let his guard down around a creature who takes pride in her ability to tame animals. This chapter is sad because Josh is still very human and wants what is best but has been tricked by Dee, Dare, and Clarent to do their bidding. He is becoming a victim of his own desire to trust those around him and his own instincts, which cannot be trusted because of the sword.



Chapters 49-52

Chapters 49-52 Summary

In Chapter Forty-Nine, the former prisoners flew in the Rukma vimana over the beautiful landscape of Danu Talis, being chased by many other vimana. Prometheus shows off his incredible flying skills and intelligence to evade and destroy the oncoming vimana.

In Chapter Fifty, Tsagaglallal tells Sophie that she believes all magic is equal and identical because the same forces are used to control all magic. Magic comes from within, therefore there is no magic because your aura and imagination are what create magic. Tsagaglallal tells Sophie to use her imagination and will to achieve her dreams, and her dream is to be with her brother. As Sophie becomes excited and runs off to get changed, Tsagaglallal says that Sophie and Josh meeting will not be a happy one.

In Chapter Fifty-One, the former prisoners are headed for the crystal tower and Abraham. The tower is under attack but is being defended by a much younger and happier King Gilgamesh. Scathach scares away the anpu with her howling as she lands on the tower. Gilgamesh says that Abraham is finishing the Book. Scathach's companions join her on the tower, and they rid the tower of the remaining anpu. Upon entering the tower, a beautiful young Tsagalalal is there, ready to fight. As they talk, another vimana appears; it is not an enemy as they supposed but Marethyu. Marethyu shot down many vimana before landing on the tower's platform. Scathach saw that he was weeping for those lives he had taken. She knew then that he had not lost his humanity.

In Chapter Fifty-Two, Black Hawk, Mars, Odin, and Hel arrive on Alcatraz Island and see the boat that Dee, Dare, and Josh had used to get there. All but Black Hawk prepare to hunt down this trio and to look for Billy and Niccolo; he will stay back by the boat in case they need to make a quick getaway.

Chapters 49-52 Analysis

Chapter Forty-Nine is another action-packed chapter as the prisoners escape the vimana. There is a sense of hope at the end of the chapter as Prometheus skillfully saves himself and the others from the enemy vimana.

In Chapter Fifty, Sophie receives the same lesson from Tsagaglallal that Josh received from Virginia; magic comes from one's will and imagination. So, although these two creatures are infinitely different, they also have some things in common, one being their understanding of magic. The lesson taught by these two women is one to which the reader can relate. Although at times events in our lives are out of our control, a great deal of our actions and consequences are controlled by us. We each have the power to use our free will and creativity to create the lives we want. This chapter is an important, yet sad, chapter; it foreshadows tragedy that is to come in Josh and Sophie's lives.



Chapter Fifty-One is another action-packed chapter for the former prisoners on Danu Talis. This chapter also shows the importance of one's humanity, as is common throughout other chapters in this book. Even Death feels empathy for others. This reinforces the main difference between those who are evil and those who are good. Although good people are flawed and make poor decisions, they are good because they care about others and have the ability to feel empathy and love for their fellow creatures. Those who are evil care only for themselves and how they can benefit from others. This chapter is also significant because it shows characters that have been met and discussed in the current time as they were many thousands of years before. This truly reveals how people can change over time due to circumstances in their lives, the people they encounter, and the impact time has on one's mind and body.

Chapter Fifty-Two is a short chapter that foreshadows events to come regarding Billy and the others. This chapter shows a friendship that has already begun to blossom between these former enemies.



Chapters 53-56 and Author's Note

Chapters 53-56 and Author's Note Summary

In Chapter Fifty-Three, Dr. John Dee is in a rage because the Book of the Dead spell he had planned on using to awaken the creatures has only been able to turn the creatures to dust. Machiavelli tells Dee he has always been an amateur; Dee finds this humorous because he has a brilliant plan. Machiavelli believes his arrogance will be his downfall. When Dee gives Billy over to be a snack for the Sphinx, Virginia saves him, saying he deserves a more dignified death. She then, to Dee's surprise, begins to awaken the creatures with her flute. When Billy and Niccolo try to convince her to stop, Dee explains to them that she has no reason to want to stop. If Dee succeeds, she will rule the world. As Virginia continued to play, Josh felt the swords pulse to her music. Josh suddenly felt a "terrible hunger" and a "ferocious rage." (p. 356) The creatures in the cells awoke.

In Chapter Fifty-Four, at the door of the crystal tower was the almost solid gold Abraham the Mage. He held the Book to his chest and greeted these people, most he had never officially met, although he knew all about their lives. He tells them that the battle is about to begin; many of them are in tears. He then gives Scathach a gift in two parts. The first part is that her sister is trapped but is alive; Scathach should go after her when the battle here is over. He will give her the second part at another time. Now it is time for them all to destroy Danu Talis.

In Chapter Fifty-Five, the Flamels, Niten, and Prometheus are on Pier 14 waiting for the signs of the Lotan. They first use magic to rid the pier of humans. When the Lotan is spotted, they allow it to suck on their auras. Then, Nicholas was able to use a simple spell to change it into its original form, an egg. He tosses the egg in the air; it is caught by a seagull and swallowed whole.

In Chapter Fifty-Six, Sophie is changed into warm gear and hiking boots. Tsagaglala shows Sophie how to use the emerald tablet as a mirror to be used as a leygate, or door to other places and times. She turns the emerald tablet into a leygate to where Josh is; she sees how much Josh has changed. She joins him by using Mar's tablet, that has fallen out of his pocket by Josh. Josh and his allies are fighting Mars and his allies. As the fighting continues, Dee creates a magical square using the four swords. He and Virginia jump into the hole that is created; Sophie is not strong enough to stop Josh from going in, so she grabs his hand and jumps in with him. After falling through darkness, they land on gravel. When a couple in white ceramic armor and bright blue eyes appear, Josh and Sophie realize these two are their parents. The couple says they are Isis and Osiris and that this is Danu Talis or home.

In the Author's Note, the author gives the history behind flying and the roots of vimanas and other flying machines in mythology.



Chapters 53-56 and Author's Note Analysis

Chapter Fifty-Three shows how Josh is becoming a monster much like those in the cell. The warnings of Clarent's abilities to poison those who carry it are coming true; the sword has great power over Josh and is corrupting his mind.

In Chapter Fifty-Four, their humanity is shown yet again. Their empathy and love for others is what makes them unique. Even Scathach, a member of a vampire clan that is not supposed to be able to feel emotion, sheds tears. This shows how being allies has affected them. They are able to get over their upbringings and differences and are able to love each other. This is a good lesson for all of us; it suggests that we should all look past our differences and help each other in any way that we can.

Chapter Fifty-Five is a relatively peaceful chapter as the characters fairly easily stop the Lotan. This reveals how quickly Dee's plan is failing.

Chapter Fifty-Six has a wild twist with Sophie and Josh's parents being Isis and Osiris. This ending leaves many unanswered questions to be answer in the next book. How could they be their parents? Did Tsagaglalal know about them? Which side will Josh and Sophie continue to follow, since Isis and Osiris support Dee?

The Author's Note gives historical information regarding his use of vimanas in this book. This shows how his knowledge of mythology and his research into other cultures have been used in the creation of this series. This gives importance to mythology and cultures around the world. It also helps the reader see how they relate to other cultures and people from around the world and throughout time.



Characters

Sophie Newman

Sophie Newman is a special and very powerful young woman. She and her brother are seen as the two that are one. One of them will destroy the world, while the other will save it. Sophie is not sure if she is making the right decision to be the one to save it. She has only trusted her brother and now he has betrayed her and joined Dee and his allies. She wishes life could go back to how it was a week ago. The week before she had been a normal teenage girl living in San Francisco and working in a coffee shop. In a matter of days she has become one of the most powerful and influential creatures on the planet. She learns that her family has been watched for thousands of years; the world had been waiting for her birth and coming of age.

Sophie spends much of this book pining away for her lost brother and learning about her family's past. She speaks with Tzagaglalal, who she thought was a close family friend known as Aunt Agnes, about her fears and anxieties and what is expected of her. The most important lesson she learns is to trust her instincts. She uses these instincts to follow Josh into a dark hole and into a world she has never seen. The book ends with the twins seeing their parents in this world, who the reader has known as Isis and Osiris.

Josh Newman

Josh Newman is a special and very powerful young man. He and his sister are seen as the two that are one. One of them will destroy the world, while the other will save it. Josh is not sure if he is making the right decision to be the one to save it. He has only trusted his sister and now she has betrayed him by hurting a creature he saw as beautiful and staying with the Flamels. In a matter of days Josh has become one of the most powerful and influential creatures on the planet, and he is enjoying this new power. He is glad when Virginia teaches him the Magic of Air, so he can be equal to his sister. Since joining Dee and Virginia and having the sword Clarent close by his side, Josh has changed. Sophie is not pleased when she sees this change in her brother.

Josh and Sophie both learn an important lesson - Sophie from Tzagaglalal and Josh from Virginia - that magic comes from one's will and imagination. Using one's imagination and will power, one can do and create anything. The book ends with the twins seeing their parents in this world, who the reader has known as Isis and Osiris.

Nicholas Flamel

Nicholas Flamel is dying throughout much of this book. He has been weakened over time from using his aura and not giving it time to revive. Recently, in the previous book, he used his aura to learn where Josh and Sophie were. Now he is days away from



death. His wife, Perenelle, unwilling to live a day without him, used her aura to give him a day of her life, so they could die together. He is revived near the end of the book and uses his aura and some simple magic to destroy the Lotan.

Perenelle Flamel

Perenelle Flamel, the Sorceress, is with her dying husband throughout much of the book. She convinces Tsagaglalal and Sophie to help her use their auras to revive her husband for one more day of life. She assists him and their allies to stop the Lotan from coming ashore.

Dr. John Dee

Dr. John Dee has been declared utlaga by Isis and Osiris. He has become an outlaw and is thought to have lost all control. He wants the knowledge that can be found on Danu Talis and is plotting to return to that island to gain this precious knowledge. He will stop at nothing to get it. He is a very arrogant and selfish man who lies to Josh to get him to join him and Virginia Dare as they plot to take over the world.

Aoife

Aoife is Scathach's sister. She is trapped in another realm fighting Coatlicue.

Scathach

Scathach is a vampire warrior who is one of the prisoners on Danu Talis. She helps them escape and enter the crystal tower, where they find Abraham and Tsagaglalal with the Book. She wants to get this battle done and over with so she can save her sister.

Joan of Arc

Joan of Arc becomes a prisoner on Danu Talis. She helps the other prisoners escape and enter the crystal tower where they find Abraham and Tsagaglalal with the Book. She is ready for battle.

St. Germaine

St. Germaine is one of the prisoners on Danu Talis. He helps the others escape and enter the crystal tower where they find Abraham and Tsagaglalal with the Book.



William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare is one of the prisoners on Danu Talis. He helps them escape and enter the crystal tower where they find Abraham and Tsagaglalal with the Book.

Prometheus

Prometheus is seen both on Danu Talis and in the present day. His younger self helps save the prisoners and brings them to the crystal tower and Abraham the Mage. The older Prometheus brings the Flamels out of his dying Shadowrealm to Tsagaglalal's home in San Francisco. He then helps the Flamels stop the Lotan from coming ashore.

Coatlucue

Coatlucue is an Archon who is both beautiful and dangerous. Josh has brought her into this world at the end of the previous book. Sophie uses a magical whip on her to send her into another Shadowrealm where she spends the rest of the book fighting Aoife. This act by Sophie pushes Josh further from her and her friends.

Niten/Miyamoto Musashi

Niten is a Japanese immortal who brings Sophie to her Aunt Agnes' house. This is where she learns that her aunt is actually Tsagaglalal, She Who Watches. He then helps the Flamels stop the Lotan from coming ashore.

Billy the Kid

Billy the Kid is an immortal humani who has joined forces with Niccolo Machiavelli. They initially are to let loose the monsters in the cells of Alcatraz, but they decide they care too much for mankind and refuse to do it. They are locked into cells by Dee.

Virginia Dare

Virginia Dare is an immortal humani who is very skilled with taming wild animals. She uses her skills to lure Josh into trusting her. She sides with Dee, because he has promised her the world.

Palamedes

Palamedes is one of the prisoners on Danu Talis. He helps them escape and enter the crystal tower where they find Abraham and Tsagaglalal with the Book.



Niccolo Machiavelli

Niccolo Machiavelli is an immortal humani who has joined forces with Billy the Kid. They initially are to let loose the monsters in the cells of Alcatraz, but they decide they care too much for mankind and refuse to do it. They are locked into cells by Dee.

Anpu

Anpu are the pilots of the vimana and the slaves of Anubis. Many are destroyed by the strangers to Danu Talis.

Isis and Osiris

Isis and Osiris have been worshiped as gods and want to save Danu Talis from its destruction. They are also the parents of Sophie and Josh.

Black Hawk

Black Hawk is a warrior who helps hunt down Dee and Virginia.

Humani

Humani is another term for humans.

Elders

Elders are the leaders of these immortals that live in other Shadowrealms. Dee plans to distract them with the letting loose of the monsters from Alcatraz, so they will not notice him plotting against them.

Next Generation

Next Generation are creatures that were created after the fall of Danu Talis. Scathach and her sister Aoife are Next Generation, which disappointed their parents.

Mars Ultor

Mars Ultor is set free by his wife from the spell she had put on him so that he could be a warlock, an oath breaker. His one mission is to kill Dee. He joins other warriors on this hunt for Dee.



Witch of Endor/Zephaniah

The Witch of Endor is Mars' wife. She sets him free to kill Dee, who is out of control. Her memories have also been put into Sophie, so Sophie has her knowledge and opinions. Sophie does not much care for her. The Witch of Endor meets with Isis and Osiris to fill them in on what has taken place since they named Dee utlaga.

Warlock

A warlock is someone who breaks an oath.

First People

The First People are the first humans created.

Aten

Aten is the leader of Danu Talis. He helps Death with his plans to destroy Danu Talis against his mother and brother's wishes.

Bastet

Bastet is the cat-like mother of Aten and Anubis. She wants Anubis to kill Aten so she and Anubis can gain control of Danu Talis.

Anubis

Anubis is Aten's brother. He and his mother plan to overthrow Aten so that they may regain power.

Tsagaglalal

Tsagaglalal is also known as She Who Watches and Aunt Agnes. She is Abraham the Mage's wife. Sophie has known this woman her whole life and only recently learns she is an immortal and one of the First People. She and her brother have been sent to watch over Sophie's ancestors and to prepare the twins for the battle to come.

Abraham the Mage

Abraham the Mage is the author of the Book, the Codex. He has created this book of knowledge for the time that is now. He wants to make sure Danu Talis is destroyed so



that the modern world can live. He is the husband of Tsagaglalal and has given her the job of watching over the females in Sophie's family.

Sack Men

The Sack Men are sent on cycles to find and keep an eye on Dee.

Hel

Hel is a warrior who joins in the hunt to find and kill Dee.

Odin

Odin is a warrior who joins in the hunt to find and kill Dee.

King Gilgamesh

King Gilgamesh is Tsagaglalal's sister and the one to watch over the men in Josh's family. Over the years, his mind fragmented and he became depressed and crazy. He lives as a bum in London, and his sister makes sure he is taken care of. Sophie and Josh had met him in a previous book. The King Gilgamesh seen in this book is a young Gilgamesh fighting to defend the crystal tower.

Nereus

Nereus is the Old Man of the Sea, a creature with a human torso and octopus legs from the waist down. He makes it difficult for Dee and Josh to get to Alcatraz by having his daughters, the Nereids, attack their boat. He also gives Dee the Lotan egg.

Nereids

The Nereids are Nereus' daughters. When they attack Dee and Josh's boat, Josh uses the knowledge he has received to scare them away. One of them is killed by Virginia when she tries to steal Virginia's magic flute.

Marethyu

Marethyu is Death. He wants Danu Talis destroyed so the modern world can live. When he kills anpu to protect the tower and himself, he weeps.

Lotan

The Lotan is a seven-headed dragon that is let loose to attack San Francisco. Fortunately, Nicholas Flamel stops it before it gets past Pier 14.



Objects/Places

Shadowrealms

Shadowrealms are the various worlds created after the fall of Danu Talis.

San Francisco

San Francisco is the location of much of the story. The gathering of warriors at Aunt Agnes' takes place here as well as the hunt for Dee and his allies.

Danu Talis

Danu Talis, also known as Atlantis, is being fought over. Some want it to survive while others want it to fall.

Vimana

Vimana are the flying saucers and other vessels that are used to protect Danu Talis.

Notre Dame

Notre Dame is a Point Zero in Paris. Its gargoyles were destroyed by Josh and Sophie in a previous book.

Paris, France

Paris, France is the location of the meeting between Isis, Osiris, and Zephaniah.

Alcatraz Prison

Alcatraz prison is where the monsters are housed until they can be released on the world.

Crystal Tower

The Crystal Tower is the home of Abraham the Mage. While he completes the Book, it is defended by the strangers, Prometheus, King Gilgamesh, and Tsagaglala.



Pier 14

Pier 14 is where Nicholas uses a simple spell to transform the Lotan back into its original form, an egg.

The Codex, The Book

The Codex is a very important book that contains all the information of the world. It was written by Abraham the Mage for the battle that has begun. Josh has two pages of the Codex but has yet to give them to Dee who has the rest of the book.

Strands of Time

Strands of time take place after the fall of Danu Talis. Abraham the Mage and others have worked to ensure that certain threads of time have actually taken place, while others were mere possibilities.

Auspicious Threads

Auspicious threads of time are those that Abraham found to be important. The most important was the one that led to the birth of Josh and Sophie.

Magic

Magic is described in this book as being a combination of one's will or Aura and imagination.

The Change

The Change takes place in Elders in advanced age. It is unique to each of them. For example, Abraham is becoming a solid gold statue, Anubis is becoming a jackal and Aten's body is growing very distorted.

Emerald Tablets

The Emerald Tablets are given out by Tsagaglalal to all that gather at her home. Each tablet is an intimate letter from Abraham to the owner of the tablet. Sophie is able to use her tablet and Mars' tablet to transport her to Josh's side.



Themes

Things Are Not Always as They Seem

An important theme in this book is that things are not always as they seem. Many characters and situations throughout this book are not as they first appear. For example, a woman Sophie has known her whole life as Aunt Agnes turns out to be an immortal, thousands of years old, named Tsagaglala. In a moment this woman went from being an elderly, overly-protective family friend to the woman who has been watching out for the females in Sophie's family for thousands of years. Dee comes across as very intelligent, but through comments made by others and the results of his actions, he is not as intelligent as he thinks he is. He makes brilliant plans that never seem to go right. In this book his plan to let the Lotan loose on the city of San Francisco makes it only to Pier 14 before Nicholas Flamel uses a simple spell on it to turn it back into an egg. One of Dee's plans has gone very well; he has been able to convince Josh that he is helping the Elders return to make this world a better place. According to Josh, Dee can be trusted more than Flamel; in reality, this is far from true. One of the most surprising examples of things not being as they seem occurs when the reader learns are Sophie and Josh's parents. Isis and Osiris are seen throughout this book as they react to the news that Dee has lost control and wants to destroy them all. At the end of the book, it is learned they are Sophie and Josh's parents.

This theme is a universal theme because even in real life situations and people are not often as they first appear. It takes time to learn people's true intentions and personalities and there are always multiple sides of a story or situation.

Power and Control

Power is an important theme in this story. Various characters in this story are vying for power and control of the world and will go to any length to get it. Even those on the good side are not immune to this desire for power. For example, Abraham has spent his life protecting specific strands of time, so that Sophie and Josh could come into existence. He has been controlling time so that the outcome he desires can take place. Whether this is the right outcome, one does not know for sure. Because of Abraham's desire for control over these strands of time, he has sent others out into the world to do his bidding. Those on the good side want control of Danu Talis so that they may destroy to protect the current strand of time. Specifically in this group, the Flamels have wanted more control over the finding and protection of the twins of legend, and as a result other sets of twins have suffered.

The Dark Elders want to return to the world from their various Shadowrealms with the help of John Dee. They wish to gain control of the world as it was in the past when they were worshiped as gods. Dee wants power and control over Danu Talis so he can have the wisdom of the world, which is the one thing he has always desired. Josh feels this



desire for power as he wields Clarent and spends time with Dee and Virginia. He has begun to change and grow hard due to this time spent on the dark side.

Very few characters do not feel a desire for some sort of power or control. One of these characters is Sophie. She simply wishes for life to go back the way it was. She does not want to be powerful. She does not wish to be important to the survival of the world. The only thing she wishes for is to be reunited with her brother. She chooses to listen to Tsagaglatal, but she does so reluctantly.

Power and the behavior associated with power is universal. Many other stories, both real and imagined, focus around this theme. In an often uncontrollable world, humans and other creatures desire power to try to gain this control.

Good versus Evil

A final theme is good versus evil. There is strong evidence of both good and evil in this book, but what is somewhat unusual is that both sides are involved in this good and bad behavior. For Josh and Sophie it is hard to tell who they should trust. They both question their decisions to follow certain groups of people. It seems they are smart to question those around them. Even Tsagaglatal warns Sophie to trust only her instinct. She can no longer even trust her twin brother.

Good qualities are seen across the board in many characters. All of those on Abraham's side show good qualities. They feel empathy for others and know how to love. Their actions, although sometimes flawed, have good intentions. Even some of the evil characters such as Virginia Dare seem to feel some sort of sense of right and wrong. For example, when Billy the Kid was about to be eaten by the Sphinx she stops it. She has known Billy for many years, and, although she does not care for him, she respects him and believes he has the right to die in a more respectful way. Both Billy the Kid and Niccolo Machiavelli have been shown to have consciences in this book. Originally they were to be on Dee's side, but after joining forces and finding their humanity, they have actually, in a sense, switched sides.

While good qualities are found in evil characters, bad qualities are also found in good characters. For example, the Flamels went against what they were originally told to do because they desired to play a more important role in finding the twins of legend. The characters in this story who have known Josh and Sophie their entire lives have lied to them. Only now have they learned that Aunt Agnes and their parents are not who they thought they were. The one good character who has acted the worst is Josh. He has joined Dee and unintentionally joined the bad side.

Good and evil are found in many other stories and in real life. Some tales show stark differences between those who are good and those who are evil, but this story more accurately portrays good and evil in the world. All are flawed. All have the capacity to care, so good and evil can be found in varying levels in all people.



Style

Point of View

The point of view of this book is both the third-person omniscient and the first-person. The purpose of the narrator is to describe the setting in which each chapter takes place and to describe the appearance and emotions of each character. By having an omniscient narrator, the reader learns of the unspoken thoughts of the characters, as well as a clear image of where the story takes place and what the characters look like. There is a great deal of non-verbal expression throughout this book, so the narrator plays an important role in expressing this to the reader. Through the narration the various emotions of the characters are expressed clearly to the reader, keeping the reader engaged and anxious to continue reading the story. The narrator also withholds information regarding the characters to heighten various senses, such as excitement, anxiety, fear, and foreboding.

The use of first person gives each character a voice. Through the dialogue in the story, one gets a sense of the various characters' personalities and motives. This enhances the emotions felt by the reader regarding the characters and the plot. The first-person perspective allows the reader to grow attached to various characters throughout the story.

By using both the first-person and third-person omniscient points of view, the reader gets a clear picture of the story as it unfolds. These points of view work well together to make the characters memorable and the story engaging.

Setting

The setting takes place in both modern and ancient times. The chapters that are of modern times take place in San Francisco and Paris. Those chapters that are set in ancient times take place on the island of Danu Talis.

Of the chapters that take place in modern times, the majority of them are located in San Francisco. Within San Francisco, the characters can be found on and around Alcatraz Island, Tsagaglalal's home, the streets of San Francisco, and Pier 14. On Alcatraz Island, Dee, Virginia and Josh make plans to unleash the frightening monsters on the city. These chapters are a combination of real details of Alcatraz Island and the famous prison that exists there and fictitious details. This makes it seem somewhat surreal, yet realistic. The chapters that take place at Tsagaglalal's house contrast a very normal looking home with various creatures of all different races and time periods gathering for a picnic. Inside this normal-looking home, Nicholas is brought back to life and all the characters receive magical green tablets. The streets of San Francisco are also a contrast in what seems real and what is imaginary as Mars comes into conflict with two teenage thugs on his way to Tsagaglalal's home. Pier 14, as in the other chapters, is



also a combination of the real and the imagined, with details of the pier as well as the use of magic and the attack of a seven-headed dragon.

The chapter that takes place in Paris is quite short. It gives background information into what had taken place in a previous book and catches Isis and Osiris on what has been taking place since they declared Dee utlaga.

Those chapters that take the reader far back in time are located on the island of Danu Talis. This is the focus of the book, as all of the characters either want to save this island or see it destroyed. The action on this island throughout the book is fast and exciting. The battle for Danu Talis begins in this book and will most likely end in the final book in the series.

Language and Meaning

The author uses descriptive language to describe the setting and the characters. This aids the reader in visualizing the story. The author also uses a variety of made-up words and unusual words from folklore. These words such as humani, Coatlicue, Nereus, and vimana help to create the fictitious land in which this story takes place.

The use of third-person omniscient aids in creating detailed images for the reader of the setting, characters, and mood. Strong adjectives such as arcane and thriving help to make the visual image of the setting, characters, and mood clear. The author also uses a handful of descriptive words frequently, such as cloying, myriad, and fetid, to give detailed descriptions of what the characters encounter.

The language of the narrator at times seems to encourage the reader to side with the Flamels and their allies, but also shows the flaws in these characters and the good qualities in some of the "bad" characters. The character the narrator always encourages the reader to side with is Sophie. It is clear that she is the only character who seems to be pure and innocent in this story. Josh may have been seen as pure and innocent in past books, but he has been influenced greatly by Dee and Clarent.

The language of the book is simple but powerful, which makes for an easy yet engaging read.

Structure

The book is divided into fifty-six chapters. All of the events in this book take place in one day on Wednesday, June 6th. The story begins with a journal entry by Perenelle Flamel explaining what has taken place up to the point in which the story begins. Once the chapters begin, the story jumps from one location to another, between various locations in San Francisco, Paris, and the ancient island of Danu Talis. Each chapter, for the most part, takes place in one location and focuses around a group of characters. The book tells of the various events taking place in the characters lives during the present and in the ancient past. All of these events are leading up to the battle for Danu Talis. For the



most part, the characters stay in specific groups throughout the entire story. Josh, Dee, and Virginia spend the entire book together as they leave Dee's burning office building and head to Alcatraz Island. They spend the rest of the story on Alcatraz plotting to release the monsters on San Francisco, and Dee makes his plans for taking control of Danu Talis. At the end, these three characters arrive in Danu Talis. Sophie spends much of the book once she escapes Dee's burning office building, with Tsagaglalal and her allies at her home in San Francisco. Various allies gather at this home to prepare for the battle that is to come. Only late in the book do these allies split up to defend the city and try to stop Dee's plans from going into action. Another group of those allied with Tsagaglalal are caught and imprisoned on the island of Danu Talis. They eventually are freed and arrive at the crystal tower where they meet the man who started it all, Abraham the Mage. There are characters in both the ancient setting and the modern setting who are one and the same; one is the younger version and one is the much older version. The book ends with the Author's Note. This is to make a connection between the real world and the world he has created. It shows how he has been greatly influenced by the mythology of various cultures throughout the world when creating this series.



Quotes

"You have a conscience, Josh...Be careful of it: I've seen good men die because of their scuples." (Chapter 4, p. 23).

"He was supposed to look after her, protect her. And he's failed." (Chapter 10, p. 55).

"I know what it is like to live for hundreds of years, I have observed the effect it has had on me...and I cannot help wondering what effect it must have on those who live a thousand, two thousand, ten thousand years." (Chapter 12, p. 75).

"...but the last week had changed him. Made him strong and confident. And he could defend himself, he thought, glancing down at the stone swords on the floor beside him." (Chapter 15, p. 90).

"This isn't a dream. This is a nightmare." (Chapter 16, p. 98).

"When you abandoned Dee, when you declared him utlaga, you created a dangerous enemy. He intends to destroy all of us." (Chapter 17, p. 110).

"...Perenelle buried her face in her hands and wept." (Chapter 19, p. 127).

"Marethyu told me that there would come a day—in a distance future, in an as-yet-unnamed land—when both my husband and I would be close to death...Nicholas would die first, and then two days later, I too would die." (Chapter 22, p. 151).

"...I love you. And that is the only thing that has kept you alive." (Chapter 25, p. 170).

"His colorless eyes flicked open and he sat bolt upright and looked around. 'Have I missed anything exciting?'" (Chapter 29, p. 200).

"I am here to ensure that your world—this extraordinary and amazing world that you created—lives on." (Chapter 30, p. 206).

"The Elders fear a servant they cannot control. And the doctor is, at this moment, completely out of control." (Chapter 31, p. 218).

"A paradise...But that is not what the Italian and the outlaw want. They want the world as it is: dirty and damaged, so they can work in the shadows." (Chapter 43, p. 284).

"It is better that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish." (Chapter 53, p. 353).

"Mom...Dad,' the twins said simultaneously. The couple bowed. 'In this place we are called Isis and Osiris. Welcome to Danu Talis, children. Welcome home.'" (Chapter 56, p. 376).



Topics for Discussion

There are several main characters in this book. Who are these main characters? Describe each of them. What role does each character play in the story? What characters are the protagonists? What characters are the antagonists? Explain. How does this opposition help the plot to progress?

This book acts similarly as mythology and folklore. What is the purpose of mythology and folklore? How is this book like mythology and folklore?

There are several themes found in this book. What are three themes? Explain how each is a theme found in this book. Are these universal themes? If so, how? If not, why not? What lessons can be learned from these themes? How are the characters in the book affected by these themes?

Many of the mythological creatures have some human-like features. Why might the author have created them in this way? How does this affect the characters in the story? How does this affect you as the reader? Why?

Isis and Osiris are the twins' parents. Did this come as a shock to you? Why or why not? Was this foreshadowed at all in this book? If so, how? If not, why might it not have been foreshadowed? What might this mean for the next and final book? How might this information affect Sophie and Josh? Why?

Sophie and Josh have lost touch with one another. How did this occur? How might this have started? What clues are given in this book to explain why Josh has changed? How is each affected by their separation? Why do they continue to be separated? What does this reveal about them? Predict what will happen to them in the next book based on information in this book.

A warlock is an oath-breaker. How is this significant in this book? Would this be significant in our own world today? Why or why not? What does this reveal about our society and those who do and do not keep oaths and follow rules?

This series of books contains the secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel. What are his secrets? What might be the purpose of Nicholas' book? How does this fit in with the story and characters found in this series?

A lot of significant events have taken place in the previous books. What have you learned about these events from this book? How has this book caught you up on all that you have missed? What is still confusing for a reader who has not read the previous books? Why? Would you recommend that someone read the other books in the series? Why or why not?