



## The Sisters' Grimoire

*Suza Kates*

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Tate Whiteburn has come home to Bar Harbor, Maine, but what should have been a short trip takes an unexpected turn. The Victorian house near the cliffs holds much more than painful memories, and when lightning strikes midnight, family secrets unfold.

She and her sisters have no choice but to work together, as they find strength they never knew they had . . . and face danger from a place they never knew existed.

## **The Sisters' Grimoire Details**

Date : Published December 23rd 2014 by Icasm Press

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Author : Suza Kates

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## From Reader Review The Sisters' Grimoire for online ebook

### **Louanne Young says**

#### **The sister's grimoire**

I thought the story could be longer but I love suzas imagination and know another book is coming and I can't wait!!!! Thanks Suzanne for taking me from one world to another just to be free of everything as you let yourself go to another world and forget your troubles!!:)

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### **Stacy Sabala says**

#### **Book Review- The Sisters' Grimoire by Suza Kates**

Tate Whiteburn is home to celebrate her youngest sister Fiona's birthday. She is not thrilled to be home. Her memories and sadness invade her mind as does her irritation with her middle sister Sami.

However on the night of Fiona's birthday a storm rages outside and a woman appears scolding their grandfather for his ways of protecting his family. Now the girls have three days to save their lives from something they know nothing about. Their grandfather reveals family secrets about their deceased mother and grandmother. He also explains more about the stranger, Emuirdane.

The girls have to buy into the whole story as their lives depend on it. They have to research who they are up against and figure out a way to unlock their powers all in three days. The clock is ticking.

This book had an interesting storyline. The three sisters inherit magick from their mother and have to work together to stop an evil witch. However it was too fast moving. It jumped from here to there extremely quickly which almost made it difficult to follow.

I was a bit disappointed with the story overall. If it is setting up a series it needs to really grab the reader so they would continue with the next book. I don't feel it did that. In fact it didn't really grab my interest at all. The author threw a lot at the reader but didn't give much detail to a majority of what occurred in the book. The characters seemed flat and not relatable. They were more annoying to me than anything. I could not invest much emotion into them. It felt almost like the story was written in a rush and needed to have too much included but without the length to successfully do so. I give it a 2 out of 5.

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### **Majanka says**

Book Review originally published here: <http://www.iheartreading.net/reviews/...>

The good: the book focuses on three sisters and their bond. The bad: it kind of reads like Charmed. There's a Victorian house, a grimoire, witchy magic being passed from mother to daughter, and so on. While entertaining, the plot sometimes jumps from place to another, which made it difficult to follow. Characters were flat too, and hard to relate to.

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## **Marcy says**

Loved this story...these 3 sisters really pulled me in. I can not wait to hear more from them. Great job again Suza!!!!

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## **Erin Hunt says**

I liked this book. It definitely grabbed my attention and I am left wanting more. One thing that bugged me while reading was the character's names. In the beginning of the book I was confused between Tate and Brit. I kept mixing the two up because Brit sounds like a girl name and Tate a boy name... but that's just me.

What an unexpected ending. I was surprised. I am looking forward to reading more.

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## **Randa says**

### **I'm glad I did**

I've read this prequel after re-reading Winter Fae, starting the second book in the series, & needing a better grasp on the characters.

I still feel that, especially compared to The Savannah Coven, there's very little by way of external character descriptions. It took me until I was reading from Fiona's perspective to work out she had a black pixie cut, instead of a ginger pony with bangs (a fringe).

I'm very glad I did read this piece, though. It clears up a bunch of hazy points in Winter Fae.

Also, how old are Sami & Tate? We know Fiona is 22, & that Tate is 8 years younger than Brit. I've not picked up much else.

Exceedingly well edited! I can go back to the series proper, now.

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## **Shelley Manner says**

Suza is one of my favorite authors. Loved all the books she has written. Somehow I missed this series but I am reading them now. I loved Sisters Grimoire prequel! I can tell right off the bat that is going to be another favorite of mine.

I so recommend Suza Kate's books. You won't be disappointed!!

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## **April W says**

Loved this prequel story of the sisters three. The characters are relatable and pull you into their story. The Whiteburn sisters suddenly discover they have magical powers and have to figure them out and "find the key" in just three days. I knew going in this was a prequel novella but still wished it was longer. This definitely left me wanting more and I'm looking forward to the first full length book coming out.

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## **Gail says**

Interesting prequel to a fantasy series. I'll definitely read the series at some point.

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## **Kristen says**

For such a small book (it's actually one of those stupid e novellas) The Sister's Grimoire by Suza Kates really was quite a big disaster. I had been working on trying to get through this for a number of months. And for something that should have been done in an afternoon that's saying something. The problem is a lack of development. It is so lacking, that I was surprised to learn this author has written a number of other books. I expected to discover that this was a new author. But, apparently, the curse of the e-book strikes again.

I'm guessing this is a prequel to a series. On the author's website this is listed under the title series. CaptureBut is is the only book listed. I am just going to assume, however, that there is more to come since you know, the word series indicated more than one....

The premise itself is fairly generic. Three sisters (Tate, Fiona and Sami) all of a sudden discover that they have magical powers. They discover they have powers because one night they get a visitor from "a servant of the dea matrona" and their grandfather owes a debt to Emuirdane. Why? Not developed. What exactly must the girls do to repay the debt? Not developed. The girls are given three days to figure out their powers and blah blah blah. Why three days? Not developed. Why the bad guys are after them, what they really can do with their powers, who the heck Hellena and Emuirdane (and what) are? Not developed. We are really only introduced to each of the girls and without a lot of background history (can't get to much background in a book that's barely over 100 pages long) they are off finding powers and a spell book and all sorts of things.

Unfortunately, in an attempt to provide this prologue of a book, confusion found a foothold. It was really hard to read that the girls one night had to run out of the house, Grandpa doesn't have time to tell them anything - they just need to follow their instincts - and then they find the book and then Grandpa has time to explain just enough to let the girls know they need to go shopping for magical items. And then, they attempt to learn about their powers and all of a sudden everything falls in place for them and within three days they've mastered everything. I spend a lot of time scratching my head. Bottom line - it all just felt fairly haphazard.

I am not sure enough time was spend by the author on this one. When I came across a glaring gap in the narration style (another one of those reasons why I expected to learn this was the first time author) I was really shocked. The story is told in third person almost all of the book, when out of the blue there is a sudden and stray random line written in first person. Can't figure out what that was all about – poor editing?

There were a few lines that pulled me right out of the book. I hate it when that happens. And in this case, the line "The Source" and the follow-up "The letter told us we had to free the source" cause me to think of first Point Break ("surfing's the source man... swear to God" Bocxx5FIMAAQy0n (1)) and then 2 sentences later I was thinking of Cole and Phoebe and Charmed. Image result for charmed cole Neither distraction is a good sign. To have those stray and random thoughts enter my head while reading was proof that this book just didn't grab my attention well enough to hold it.

Finally, a pet peeve. "Magick" was annoying to read constantly. I really would have preferred to read it the way it is spelled in English. I don't like it when authors don't just use the normal English spellings for words (and I am not picky - British English or American English is fine; I just want ENGLISH!!!). Or when they create their own slang. Or text speak on. It's annoying and should, frankly, be embarrassing for the author to not just write better. The occasional dip into that, fine. Slang expressions which are in use, fine. But intentional misspellings to do this, NOT FINE. And when the author just let the characters sound like idiots because he/she thinks it's cool to use extra "z"s and thinks he/she is superior for using foreign language (and not translating or not using it consistently or writing the accents), well, it's NOT FINE. Ok. Rant over.

If this really was just the prequel to the series, despite the issues, I expect that I will give at least the first book a chance. Since this seems to be the set-up for the first full length novel and I expect (hope) that the book will spend much more time developing what was missing here - and I assume that the editing issues will be corrected. After all, despite my reluctance to admit it, I really did enjoy the Charmed TV series and this book felt a lot like that (even has a Charmed fan-fiction thing going, not to mention the aforementioned source references). But I hope that we see some improvements with things mentioned.

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### **Michelle says**

Suza Kates is a writer which I have not read anything of before, and The Sisters' Grimoire seemed like a very good book to start with.

The first thing that struck me was the length of the book, with its only 97 pages it did not seem like much. I have sought various places in an attempt to find out if it might be a short story to an already existing series, but unfortunately without success - it seems to be stand-alone book.

The book started out as extremely confusing, and there were just so many unanswered questions that I became more and more irritated. The feeling that something is going on over your head, is tremendously annoying, and it is unfortunately a long time coming before we get some answers. Furthermore, I could have used more depth in both the universe and characters, sadly it all seemed a bit flat and boring, and I found it hard to relate to the sisters. The book certainly has potential, and you get a glimpse here and there of what lies beneath the surface, but with just 97 pages, there is simply not enough room for the story to begin to get really interesting.

The three sisters learn in a violent way that, they come from a family of witches, and that their mother was, in fact, a very powerful one. They are faced with a task that, if they want to have a chance to save themselves must be resolved within three days. We do not know what they have to save themselves from or why, just that they have three days to solve the problem otherwise it will be too late. And then as the reader you think that this is where the story will get exciting, but no... First, they sleep... Then they look at the attic and consider cleaning it... Then they go out and buy stones and candles etc... Then it is time to eat... Talk... Eat... But then something begins to happen ... Interrupted by more eating ... more sleeping... And sometimes a quarrel or some other trivial matter. All in all I had a really hard time sensing their stress over just having three days available, but on the other hand, three days seemed more than enough time considering how easy it is for them to learn the art of witchcraft. Normally books about witches, include several years of lessons and training before they can use the more powerful witchcraft, but that is not necessary for these three super-sisters, and unfortunately the whole thing has a very rushed and unrealistic feeling to it.

The book has its good sides, and although I felt the sisters wasted much of their time, there were also moments I quite liked. However they are far between, and most are unfortunately drowned out by the rather hasty and flat feeling I am left with, but I sense a potential in both the universe and author, and I might read something else by her later on - she has written several other books, all of which have fine reviews, and which have a lot more than 97 pages, so maybe I'm luckier with one of her other books. Time will tell whether I will read more of this author and what I will think of her other works, but this is unfortunately not the best book to start with, and therefore it gets only two stars.

\* I received this book from NetGalley\*

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### **Marjolein says**

Full review to come!

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### **Erth says**

now i am hooked. This was such a great, easy and creative book. i was hooked after the first page.

The characters were easy to fall in love with and follow, along with the story. the author made the mental visions so easy and vivid of the surroundings and the characters actions felt so real.

i would highly recommend this author and this book.

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### **Lara Girdler says**

When you think of Witches what comes to mind? Salem witch trials? Movies like Hocus Pocus, The Craft or even Practical Magic? Or do you think of characters in books similar to the All Souls Trilogy by Deborah Harkness or even The Crucible. When I think of Witches I think of Ancient covens popping up all over the old world - for those unaware this includes all of Europe - during ancient times when the craft was passed from Mother to Daughter and through the matriarchal lines of the family used to celebrate the changing of the season, the Sabbats and the monthly full moon - its these traditions that have been the history written within many a novel.

And the Sister's Grimoire is no exception, only this time the magick is passed through the family line via Celtic and Romanian ancient traditions - the sisters, Tate, Fiona, and Samantha have lived their lives unaware of the deep dark magical history of their family and on the night of Fee's 21st Birthday they are enlightened to that history when a strange visitor arrives to tell them they have 3-Days to right a wrong they had no part in setting - a Mother they thought long dead had set this in motion when Fee was just an infant...and only when they embrace and learn to control their Magick can they even begin to think about righting this wrong.

I found this novella to be very intriguing, as one who embraces the magical side of life I enjoyed seeing the history, tools, and especially the use of Magick to be very well written. I admit the story got off to a little bit of a slow start, but once I got through the first chapter I knew I was onto something special and that the

author was going to spin a tale that meshes the modern era with the stories of the past all the while keeping to the traditions as written in this family's Grimoire - or rather the family's Book of Shadows - I very much enjoyed this book and managed to read it in its entirety in one sitting - something that happens quite rarely for me these days.

Five out of Five Stars for The Sisters Grimoire

\*\*I received a copy of this book from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review\*\*

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### **Pam says**

This is the prequel novella in Suza Kates' series of books, The Sisters' Grimoire, an anticipated trilogy of books to follow this prequel. The Sisters' Grimoire provides the background for the first actual full-length novel of the series (The Winter Fae) and, as with the Savannah coven series, this series also has its basis in magic and witchcraft. However, whereas the Savannah coven series was set in the deep south, The Sisters' Grimoire begins its story on the rocky shores of Maine with three grown sisters who have reunited for a birthday party, only to learn that they are witches and have a destiny to fulfill. The location is not the only thing that is different. The type of magic involved is different as well. (Didn't know that there were different types of magic, did you? Well now you know!) I was fully expecting something similar to the Savannah coven series and was pleasantly surprised to find a completely different type of story that was still filled with magic and witches and supernatural phenomena. In my opinion, Suza Kates is the mistress of her type of storytelling and is at the top of her form. I am looking forward to diving right into The Winter Fae as soon as I finish writing this review!

However, as with the last two books of the Savannah coven series, I do have the same complaint. There were several places in this relatively short book where words were misspelled, grammar was incorrect, etc. However, there weren't as many places in this book as in the last two books of the Savannah coven series. As I've previously stated in other reviews, I don't recall seeing these errors in the first seven Savannah coven novels and the one novella, and this was disappointing to me. I guess this seems important to me personally because I was an English major in college and I constantly proofread anything I write for any reason. I'm also an aspiring author and, to me, errors like this take the reader's attention away from the story. But I believe this would fall under the publisher's purview and not the author's so I have no quarrel with Suza at all about this.

Suza has done another great job with The Sisters' Grimoire and I am really looking forward to starting The Winter Fae. I'll report back when I've finished it!

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