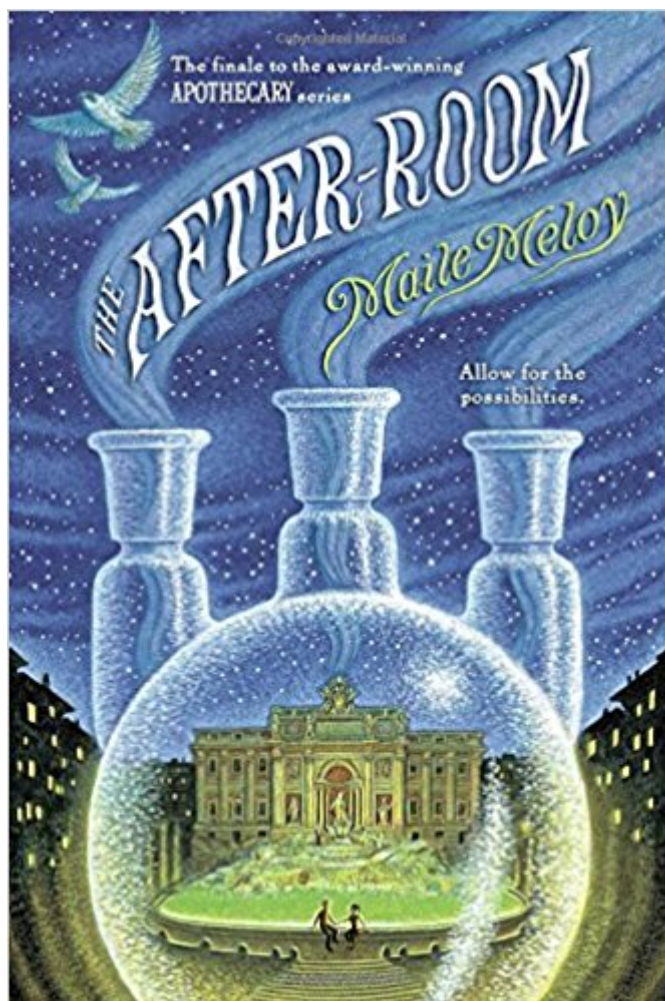


The book was found

The After-Room (The Apothecary Series)



Synopsis

The triumphant finale in the bestselling trilogy is now in paperback! It's 1955, and Benjamin Burrows and Janie Scott are trying to live a safe, normal life in America. It's not easy, when they have the power to prevent nuclear disaster, and sinister forces are circling. Soon the advice of a mysterious, unscrupulous magician propels Janie and Benjamin into danger, and toward the land of the dead. Meanwhile, their friend Jin Lo washes up on a remote island where an American spy is stationed, and finds herself on the trail of a deadly threat in China. But she's on the other side of the world—how can Janie and Benjamin reach her? The triumphant finale in the trilogy that began with Maile Meloy's bestselling, critically acclaimed *The Apothecary*, and continued in its captivating sequel, *The Apprentices*, *The After-Room* is full of enchantment and heart, with Ian Schoenherr's stunning illustrations throughout.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0660 (What's this?)

Series: The Apothecary Series (Book 3)

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (February 7, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0147516943

ISBN-13: 978-0147516947

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 1.1 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 17 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #75,898 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #2130 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic #2844 in Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 5—In this trilogy finale, the remaining conspirators push aside sadness to fight nuclear proliferation using the magical *Pharmacopeia* book. It's 1955, and Benjamin and Janie drown in alternating tides of grief and confusion. Benjamin's new acquaintance Doyle claims

Benjamin can contact his dead father in a liminal place called the After-room, but Janie worries deeply about Doyle and this kind of magic. Even as they head to Rome for more adventures, their old friend Jin Lo tracks down the missing nuclear weapon in the China seas, needing the magical help only they can provide. In the final novel, their work requires greater sacrifice and dedication of purpose. Events move at a whirlwind pace. Alternating chapters from events in the United States and China keep the dramatic tension tight even as the book's tone is painted by grief and the losses suffered in *The Apprentices* (Penguin, 2013). The nuclear weapon hunt, while crucial, seems less epic than Benjamin's and Janie's prior quests. Their use of magic is more practiced and less wondrous. Nonetheless, secondary characters like Doyle and Jin Lo's friend Ned are gems, and everyone's wanderings somehow collapse back in as neatly as a Chinese fan. For Benjamin and Janie, life holds great meaning. Readers will find much to contemplate in their journey. Pair this with Maggie Stiefvater's "The Raven Cycle" books (Scholastic) for fantasy above the common order.

VERDICT A cerebral fantasy with enough action to keep readers on their toes. Purchase to complete the trilogy.

—Caitlin Augusta, Stratford Library Association, CT --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Praise for *The After-Room*: "This series finale wraps up most of its loose ends in a satisfying bow, leaving just enough room for imaginative middle-grade readers and teens to conjure up their own futures for Janie and Benjamin."

—Kirkus Reviews

"A cerebral fantasy with enough action to keep readers on their toes."

—School Library Journal

"Meloy ends her trilogy on a satisfying note and manages an authorial sort of alchemy just short of being as miraculous as that performed by her protagonists: creating realistic historical fiction that gives an authentic cold war feel, along with potions that can turn one into a bird."--VOYA

Maile Meloy writes with so much assurance, so much meticulous and authentic texture, so much humanity and humor, it's almost impossible NOT to believe in magic once you've immersed yourself in these books. This finale in particular. I was totally swept up by this wonderful, utterly original tale. Totally satisfied by the outcome of a long and winding journey. And totally engrossed by the emotional catharsis our heroes finally earn after much sacrifice and struggle. It's hard to imagine any kid who wouldn't be uplifted by this series. Mine certainly were!

I loved this book. I had been counting down the days until it came out and was very impressed with

the writing and the story line, except one part. As it turns out "the after-room" is actually the after life and Malie Meloy wrote about ghost and talking to dead people. Now I know that things in this series tend to be a bit magical like how they turn into birds, but the addition of dead people bent what I thought this series was about. I highly recommend the other two books in this series and wonder if there might be a fourth, seeing as their wasn't much of a conclusion and a bit of a hook at the end, but most definitely not a cliff hanger. I hope to read more on Janie, Benjamin, Pip, and Jin lo!

I thoroughly enjoyed the first two books in the series and this one wrapped up the series in a most satisfactory manner. Thanks, Ms. Meloy!

my granddaughter was ecstatic

I bought for my classroom. The students seem to love the book and the series.

Magical and challenging

Loved this book and the whole series. Sad that this is the last one.

daughter loves it, full of adventure and magic, great characters.

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