



The Butterfly in Amber

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Life is always hard for the gypsies, who live to their own rhythm and their own rules, but since Oliver Cromwell had seized control of England, life had been harder – and drabber – than ever. But now life for the Finch tribe has gone even more horribly wrong. They have been accused of vagrancy and murder, and thrown into gaol with only three weeks to live. The only members of the family to escape are 13-year-old Emilia and her cousin Luka. They have been entrusted to find the six charms and bring them together again. Then, perhaps, the gypsies could once again have some luck... And the Finch tribe could walk free. What Emilia and Luka do not realise is that there is a price to be paid for each lucky charm, and that the cost may prove too high...

28th August – 3rd September, 1658:

Luka and Emilia travel to London to find the last of the Graylings tribe, who has married a Puritan lawyer and turned her back on her past. As well as all the perils of the capital city, the children must escape the vengeful Coldham, and still get to Kingston-Upon-Thames in time to rescue their families. But then, on the anniversary of his greatest victory, the Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell is mysteriously stricken down... Will everything change? And can the children save their family in time?

The thrilling conclusion to the **Chain of Charms** series.

The Butterfly in Amber Details

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Author : Kate Forsyth

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From Reader Review The Butterfly in Amber for online ebook

Niamh Griffin says

A wonderful conclusion to a historical, magical and adventurous series. The Butterfly in Amber is as exciting and fast paced as the other 5 books in this children's series. Although the butterfly will never be freed from the Amber, its magic, along with that of the other charms help Luka and Emilia free their families from goal. Coldham experiences a very satisfying bolt of reality, while all the Rom families join together to celebrate Beatrice's wedding.

Ashleigh says

Review to come

Jess says

Really liked the entire series

Sean Harding says

Series concludes in a very satisfying way. The blend of fantasy and history blends well. Also the fact that it wasn't all just happiness, there were sad events to deal with as well. Overall it was a fine series, very readable and entertaining.

Muphyn says

Final book in the series - felt a bit rushed in the end though still lively and entertaining. I guess the author had to bring a lot of strings together but still, it felt a bit as though she was running out of time and had to solve all the plots quickly. it's only been a few days and I can't even remember the ending exactly but I think everybody ends up being happy and merry and living happily ever after, or something like that! good fun.

Bronwyn Rykiert says

This is the final installment in this lovely little series about the Gypsy family the Finch's, who were imprisoned for dancing in public. Cousins, Ameila & Luka escape and along with their dog Rollo, their bear Sweetheart and a monkey ZiZi and they have quite an adventure while they look for their extended family to find the help they need to free their family. Before they left their grandmother gave them a charm and she told Amelia that she needs to find the rest of the charms and put them together again as they will bring them

luck and help with their quest.

Part of their adventure is being chased by Coldham "The Thief Taker", a soldier of the Cromwell regime.

I have not read much about this time in British history but it seems like it was not a good time to be around, Cromwell seemed to be very strict. It was an interesting little bit of history.

A good read - the whole series.

Karen Field says

This is the sixth and final book in the series.

Luca and Emilia need the final charm to complete the set. But they only have a day or so to find it and get back to the prison where their families are being held captive.

Throughout the six books, the magic of the charms featured strongly and there was an extensive effort to gain support from long lost family members. I expected the climax to be exciting and full on, but it fizzled out for me. Yes, the two children saved the day but the ending was somewhat disappointing because the gathering of people was pointless and I didn't feel the charm bracelet actually had much to do with the resolution.

Overall, the series was an adventure touched with magic. Other than the climax, I felt the presence of the larger animals hindered the children so they were disposed off early on so obviously that didn't work that well. And, at times, the historical content came across as purely being there to enlighten, not to entertain, which means it was a bit distracting.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoyed the series. It was fun and easy to read. I was, however, disappointed that the reason for the children's adventure didn't really materialise into a fantastic ending that left me breathless.

Noseymo says

N read.

Stephanie says

Wow, what a ride. It was such a sweet ending to the series. I'm really happy with how it all wrapped up.

I will definitely say that it is more of a young adult series, compared to middle grade though.

Courtney says

I didn't really like the ending. It was good but I think they got away too easily. In reality I think the soldiers would have kept chasing after them even though Coldham was as good as dead.

Kara Bianca says

Summary:

This book is the final installment in the Chain of Charms series, which is an all-time favorite from my middle-grade years, especially now that I've finally finished it! I read Book 5 (The Lightning Bolt) a few days ago and have a review posted for it as well, so go check that out if you'd like my opinion. This series follows Emilia and Luka, a pair of gypsy children whose family has been imprisoned for performing in the local square. They're on a mission to collect a series of charms for a bracelet that is said to contain magic that will help their family get free, and find some friends along the way to also help! This series is set during Cromwell's reign, and has a lot of historical focus.

Characters 4.25/5:

I love the characters in this series, in a sweet, juvenile way. I mentioned in my previous review that Luka and Emilia are both a little selfish in the way of 10-12 year old kids, but I find them really endearing and definitely fun to read about. This particular installment also followed a quirky series of side characters that they encounter which I also really enjoyed!

Setting and atmosphere 3/5:

I love the historical setting and gypsy atmosphere of this series, but I think this installment probably has the least in atmosphere and world-building, primarily because it is the final book, where the adventures are finally coming to a head.

Plot 4.75/5:

This book is probably the strongest of the series in regards to plot. A lot happens, and the final culmination of the entire series is quite exciting!

Writing Style 4/5:

I enjoy Kate Forsyth's writing style in this series. It's my favorite kind of middle-grade voice: not condescending, and with plenty of opportunity to learn whilst still being accessible to children. This doesn't feel ridiculously simple in its prose when reading it as an adult, unlike some middle-grade pieces.

Bonus points:

Formatting 4/5:

As with the previous installment, the pictures throughout this one are just gorgeous!
