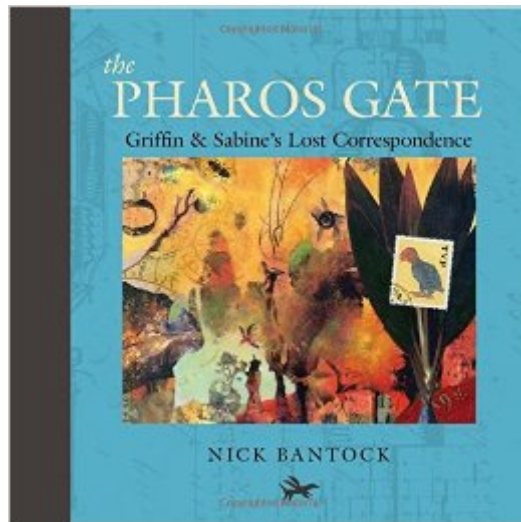


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The Pharos Gate: Griffin & Sabine's Lost Correspondence



Synopsis

A love story for the ages, the tale of Griffin and Sabine is an international sensation that spent over 100 weeks on the New York Times bestseller list and continues to beguile readers 25 years after its original publication. Here to celebrate that anniversary is the final volume in Griffin and Sabine's story—a book that can be enjoyed as a singular reading experience or in conjunction with the series as a whole. The Pharos Gate rejoices in the book as physical object, weaving together word and image in beautifully illustrated postcards and removable letters that reveal a sensual and metaphysical romance, one full of mystery and intrigue. Published simultaneously with the 25th-anniversary edition of Griffin & Sabine, The Pharos Gate finally shares what happened to the lovers in a gorgeous volume that will surely delight Griffin and Sabine's longtime fans and a new generation of readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Griffin Moss is in London and Sabine Strohem is on the fictional Sicmon Islands in the South Pacific as this final installment of their adventure begins. What started with Griffin and Sabine and the initial story of how the couple became aware of each other now finds that they must travel to Alexandria in Egypt where they plan to finally meet at Pharos Gate. Through a series of letters and post cards the reader become a co-passenger on this trip to the culmination of their adventure. The influences of good are represented in the bodies of Griffin's guardians, namely his friend Maud who lives in nearby Devon. She, in turn, reaches out to a dear friend of hers, Francesca who lives in terminus of

the couple's journey, Alexandria. Both these women characterize the force of positive energy. Evil, the other side of the spectrum, is manifested in the sinister Frolotti who does everything he can to prevent Sabine from leaving her island home. His minions emerge throughout the story warning that this union cannot, should not, take place. The format of this book is the same that enthusiasts of previous books in this series have come to anticipate. The story unfolds in a series of post cards and letters between the characters as they correspond back and forth. The reader must actually open an envelope and extract the letter to read the epistle in hand. This function attaches another layer of reality to the story that can't be achieved in a two dimensional plane. Aside from this unique format, *Pharos Gate* is full of the dreamlike artwork of author and artist Nick Bantock. It is in these paintings and collages that Nick lets us glimpse the vision he holds of these star-crossed lovers. As the story progresses and the couple get closer and closer to their final destination the readers become anxious and troubled when the time comes to open the final envelope.

Beautifully illustrated and executed, this latest (and possibly last?) installment of the Griffin & Sabine series really belongs somewhere within the third book of the trilogy, *The Golden Mean*. It is, as described, additional letters and correspondence between Griffin and Sabine as they try to make their way towards each other to Alexandria. For those who have not read the series, I think it will be a little difficult to follow this piece – it's almost like an added novella to the series. That said, since the reading experience of these books is so delightful, I would go ahead and recommend reading it anyway, because there's nothing more delicious than getting to read and see and feel other people's correspondence. If you're already a fan of the series, then just know that while this installment doesn't add more in terms of the actual plot line, reading it did bring me back to those initial moments of wonder when I first read Griffin and Sabine. The writing, is, as always, extremely spiritual and metaphysical; at its best, it illustrates the desperation, fear and longing that Griffin and Sabine face. What this installment gave me, more than the rest of the books, was a feeling of how much Sabine and Griffin were giving up to be together. I believe that the older, wiser Nick Bantock realized that, too, and because of that, this book humanizes the very fantastical relationship that Griffin and Sabine have, and made me cheer them on even more. If you're a fan of this series, I would definitely recommend purchasing *The Pharos Gate*, but if you're new to it, start at the beginning and savour the magic of Griffin & Sabine. You won't regret it.

In the continuing saga of Griffin and Sabine, *Pharos Gate* is predictable in that it is as good as all of Nick Bantock's books. It is full of surprises and suspense as we watch to see if they will be

prevented from meeting. In the end it leaves you hopeful as it attempts to describe the journey in so many of us as we attempt to find our soulmate and learn to love and appreciate ourselves and our self-worth. Pharos Gate is filled with more wonderful art and creative settings encouraging the reader to learn more about the world while entertaining us and allowing us to be lost in a fantasy world seemingly more real than our own. This is by no means a certain ending to the saga as we could hear from the pair again as they journey together and contact others to help unite the two worlds. Overall, well worth the money spent and time to read. A great book!

This book satisfied a longing of many years--to have found a proper ending for the original Griffin and Sabine trilogy. Nick Bantock's genius has never been in dispute, but my wife and so many others wished and hoped for the day this book would come. Previous posters have said it better in their 5-star reviews, for which we are grateful. Thanks, Mr. Bantock, for this one, in particular. We had faithfully purchased the others right along, but "Pharos Gate" has given us much joy. What a long journey it has been--we wouldn't have missed a minute of it, however.

Today I received The Pharos Gate as a birthday gift from my husband, and I just finished it...I've been waiting since it was released to read it, and I was not disappointed. In fact I pointed it out on to my husband a week or so ago and said, "Now, I did put this on my birthday wish list, didn't I?", just to make sure! Thank you, Nick Bantock, for writing this one and making my birthday so enjoyable! I opened the package this morning but did not want to read it right away; I saved it til after lunch, and then read a little at a time, forcing myself to close it and walk away for a little while. I was tempted to devour the book in one sitting, but I did not want the story to end, so I savored it. The ending is wonderful and almost made me cry, because I am one of those "incurable romantics" that one review mentioned. I bought the first three Griffin and Sabine books several years ago and have acquired the rest and loved them all. Other authors have copied this format, with letters in envelopes, etc. but no one else does it as well. I have to say I was a little disappointed with the ending of The Morning Star, because I wanted more of a fairy tale happy ending. Now I am satisfied. Big smile. P.S. I look forward to waiting awhile and then reading and savoring the entire series again.

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