



Eagle's Egg | Circlet of Oak Leaves

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New to Choice:

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

Rosemary Sutcliff writes with feeling and great skill capturing the atmosphere of life with the Roman legions in Britain. Unfortunately her specialist subject and style please only a limited audience and these two stories written for 'younger' readers are no more approachable for individual readers than her lengthier works.

The language, with its historic flavour and lengthy sentences, many of fifty words and more, proves a deterrent and the responses from a mixed bunch of testers were uniformly negative.

A Circlet of Oak Leaves tells of Aracos, the horse breeder, who carries a secret. Standing in for Felix, a legionary sick with fear before a battle, he fights with great courage and then sees Felix receive the Corona Civica for what he has been through.

Eagle's Egg has an amusing twist and a romantic background. Quintus must win promotion before he can marry Cordaella. How a hard boiled duck's egg and a legion's standard help to quell rebellious troops and earn the longed-for promotion make a light-hearted tale.

I doubt that many young children will buy these books but do purchase copies for the school library. They read well aloud and for those children who are tempted they are well worth a place on the shelf.

Running Order:

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