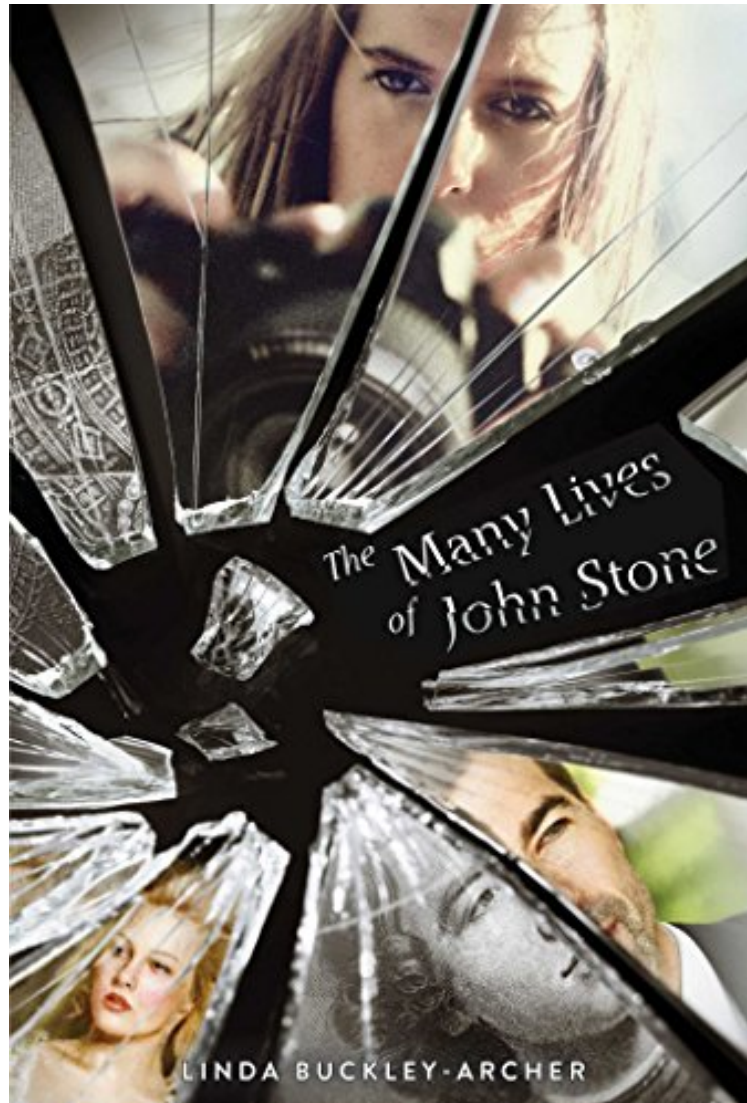


(Library ebook) The Many Lives of John Stone

The Many Lives of John Stone

Linda Buckley-Archer

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#3411950 in Books Linda Buckley archer 2016-10-18 2016-10-18Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x 1.30 x 5.50l, .0 #File Name: 1481426389544 pagesThe Many Lives of John Stone | File size: 31.Mb

Linda Buckley-Archer : The Many Lives of John Stone before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Many Lives of John Stone:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing and frustratingBy RuthsicFirst of all, this is not a time travel book and that blurb is misleading with regards to plot. Considering genres and blurbs are what usually get me into a book, I was a bit miffed on this point. Had I not known of this before going into the book, could my experience have been different? I doubt it. The plot revolves around John Stone, so much so that even in third person account, his full name John Stone is used in every sentence. I get it – it was the anglicized version of his French name, but it was a

bit discomfoting to the eye. So John aka Jean-Pierre, lived in the court of The Sun King, a time when being morally upstanding was perhaps not the best in a court full of manipulations. John being what he is (I will refrain from spoiling readers), he is considered an anomaly, but a curious one – something to keep as part of a collection. Most of the book chronicles his time in the court – which hardly has anything much to do with the current era, plot-wise. See, Jean was taught to keep his existence a secret, so he keeps it even in the current age, living with two other people of his kind, in seclusion, somewhere in Suffolk. He is Monsieur Broody – that’s how exhausting his recollection of his ‘lives’ have been (another way the title is misleading, along with the cover!). He hires Stella as an intern to organize his archives, but actually wants her to be their Friend, a confidant, based on the fact that he suspects she is his dead wife’s daughter. And while he is on a deadline, he takes his own sweet time to letting her know of her heritage, rather than, I don’t know – letting her de-crypt the archives and find out herself. No, she gets that at the end of the book, in the form of the notebooks which we read throughout the book. So while there could have been more interesting stories as to his ‘family’ pasts so that she can understand them better, he regales her with a long saga of his first love and time at the glorious court of Henry XIV. And what was more frustrating was the slow pace of the book – I was constantly looking at the progress bar to see when it will end. There wasn’t much in way of conflict, and the thing about the assassin was never resolved. Why exactly did the assassin strike? I thought there would be contemporary repercussions to it, but nada. The only conflict was a stubborn man’s pride and unwillingness to depend on those close to him, but miraculously that is all resolved in a matter of sentences at the end of the book. Basically, this was exhausting for me to read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. and while somewhat disappointed at that By kindlemom1 (My Guilty Obsession) The Many Lives of John Stone is an unusual book. Told in multiple dimensions and through two main characters, it is a story unlike any other I have read. With a very slow start and a writing style truly unique in voice, it took me a bit to get into it but once there, it wasn't hard to read on and want to know the rest of the story. Sadly this was not a time travel story but rather you traveled back in time through the entries of a diary, and while somewhat disappointed at that, I did enjoy the diary entries. It was fascinating to learn about court life in France and the history buff in me couldn't help but gravitate towards those entries more than anything else. Especially as the story unfolded and we really got to know who John Stone is. While sometimes wordy in description, the story did have a unique take on the overall plot of the story and in the end, I did end up enjoying this more than I initially thought I would. *An ARC Copy of this was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.* 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating By Charity Martinez For full review please search for "5 Girls Book Reviews" in a search engine and/or Facebook "5 Girls Book Reviews" REVIEW BY: Arianna, age 12 years, 10 months MAY CONTAIN SPOILER: This book was fascinating! My favorite character is Spark because she is brave, intelligent, and kind. My favorite parts are when I read John Stone's notebook because it is a great and vivid description of the time of the Sun King's ruling.

A teen questions all she knows about aging when she encounters a set of journals that date from the present back to the reign of King Louis XIV in this “absorbing portrait of the court of Versailles” (Kirkus Reviews) from the author of the acclaimed Gideon trilogy. Stella Park (Spark for short) has found summer work cataloging historical archives in John Stone’s remote and beautiful house in Suffolk, England. She wasn’t quite sure what to expect, and her uncertainty about living at Stowney House only increases upon arriving: what kind of people live in the twenty-first century without using electricity, telephones, or even a washing machine? Additionally, the notebooks she’s organizing span centuries—they begin in the court of Louis XIV in Versailles—but are written in the same hand. Something strange is going on for sure, and Spark’s questions are piling up. Who exactly is John Stone? What connection does he have to these notebooks? And more importantly, why did he hire her in the first place?

From School Library Journal Gr 9 Up—British teen Stella "Spark" Park's chance meeting with her brother's benefactor, John Stone, proves life-altering for both the enigmatic philanthropist and Spark. Taking a job at Stone's estate organizing his archives, Spark alternately befriends and avoids Stowney House's two extremely old-fashioned inhabitants: motherly Martha and ornery Jacob. Despite Spark's crucial role in this tale, the focus is on the titular John Stone, or Jean-Pierre, as he was known when he attended Louis XIV in Versailles. Via journal entries, readers (and ultimately Spark) learn that Stone is over three centuries old: a "sempervivens." Not immortal or vampiric, his secret race is gifted with longevity. In a bittersweet twist, Spark's own secret makes her the now-ailing Stone's reason for living. Conjuring prose; a steady, engrossing pace; believable conflict relating to both families' complexities; and the dangers technology poses to an individual's privacy make this an engrossing title for teens. While there's romance, it is refreshingly overshadowed by the love among family. Rich in historical detail and subtly supernatural yet ultimately relatable, this affecting, intelligent tale addresses themes of forging one's own identity, finding one's niche, and discovering what it means to truly live. VERDICT A must-purchase for libraries with discerning teen readers preferring substance to silliness.—Danielle Serra, Cliffside Park Public Library, NJ "I loved this book. The world it conjures up is so vividly imagined, and John Stone, the mysterious man at its heart, so fascinating and compelling. It's a licence to imagine, and an invitation to consider deeply what we mean by 'lifetime.' Original, thought-provoking and

moving, it's a classic in the mould of LOST HORIZON." (M.L. Stedman, author of THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS)"Buckley-Archer paints an absorbing portrait of the court of Versailles...Good historical fiction with a paranormal twist." (Kirkus s)"Delicately balancing history, estrangement, reconciliation, and hope, the story powerfully depicts the fierce, abiding love of family: natural, adopted, and found." (Publishers Weekly, starred review)*"Exceptionally well-orchestrated and a simply magnificent story." (Booklist, starred review)*"Passion, intrigue and uncertain loyalties span the centuries in this slow-burning pageturner that's breathtaking in scope and thought-provoking to the end." (Shelf Awareness, starred review)"Rich in historical detail and subtly supernatural yet ultimately relatable, this affecting, intelligent tale addresses themes of forging one's own identity, finding one's niche, and discovering what it means to truly live." (School Library Journal)About the AuthorLinda Buckley-Archer is the author of the critically acclaimed Gideon trilogy. Originally trained as a linguist, she is now a full-time novelist and scriptwriter. She has written a television drama for the BBC and several radio dramas, as well as various journalistic pieces for papers like the Independent. The Gideon Trilogy was inspired by the criminal underworld of eighteenth-century London.