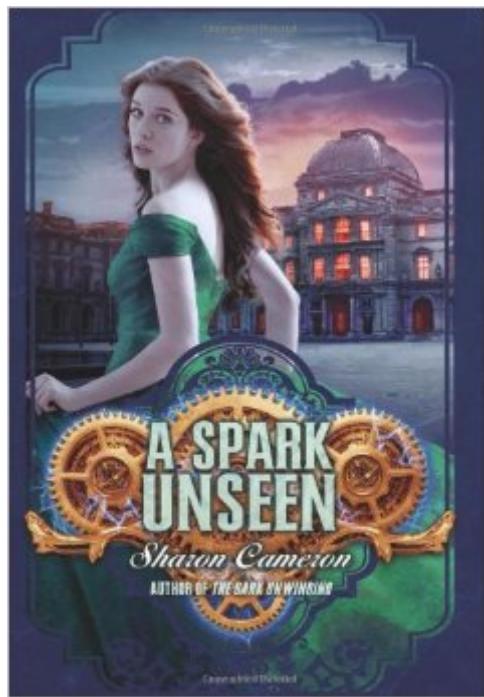


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A Spark Unseen



Synopsis

When Katharine Tulman wakes in the middle of the night and accidentally foils a kidnapping attempt on her uncle, she realizes Stranwyne Keep is no longer safe for Uncle Tully and his genius inventions. She flees to Paris, where she hopes to remain undetected and also find the mysterious and handsome Lane, who is suspected to be dead. But the search for Lane is not easy, and Katharine soon finds herself embroiled in a labyrinth of political intrigue. And with unexpected enemies and allies at every turn, Katharine will have to figure out whom she can trust--if anyone--to protect her uncle from danger once and for all. Filled with deadly twists, whispering romance, and heart-stopping suspense, this sequel to *The Dark Unwinding* whiskers readers off on another thrilling adventure.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 910L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press (September 24, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545328136

ISBN-13: 978-0545328135

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 5.8 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (35 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #317,485 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #114 inÂ Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Steampunk #159 inÂ Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Historical #260 inÂ Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Europe

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

It's been almost a year and a half since Lane left without warning for Paris, and in the interim Katharine has flourished in her role as caretaker of both Stranwyne and her Uncle Tully, proving herself more than capable. But when it becomes clear that her beloved uncle and his brilliant creations are not safe from either the British and the French, Katharine is forced to uproot her new life and to take drastic measures to ensure the safety and the well-being of the uncle she's come to love so dearly. I'm not sure I can fully convey how much I love Katharine Tulman, but she is

definitely among my absolute, all-time favorite heroines. The development of her character by Sharon Cameron is fantastic as Katharine begins as the ill-treated, somewhat embittered orphan who is only interested in securing her own financial future at the expense of others to the devoted, sacrificial young woman and loving niece sheâ™s become. Katharine has always been analytical, quick-witted, sharp, pragmatic and determined, but those admirable traits have been put to better use now that sheâ™s opened her heart to the people of Stranwyne. Sheâ™s matured greatly, become a leader, has been stretched to almost impossible lengths, and tested considerablyâ | and will be again in A Spark Unseen. Itâ™s simply fantastic. Sheâ™s simply fantastic. Also wonderful is the development of Uncle Tully, Katharineâ™s sweet, brilliant autistic uncle. I love both Cameronâ™s portrayal of him in the book (and Katharineâ™s relationship with her uncle), and Hardinghamâ™s portrayal of him in the audiobook. He steals the scene every time heâ™s on page. The dynamic in this second book differs a lot from the first.

At the start of Sharon Cameron's novel The Dark Unwinding, the year was 1852. When she turned 18, Katharine Tulman's life and view of the world changed drastically. After spending years with a cold and manipulative aunt, she was sent to visit her uncle Tully, instructed to simply and quickly witness his state of being and declare him legally insane. But Katharine unexpectedly bonded with Tully, a man whose intelligence was off the charts but whose personality was childlike, fragile. She refused to declare him insane and became his protector instead. This led to encounters with ruthless people who would stop at nothing to get Tully's inventions. Katharine and Tully survived their vicious attacks - but others they loved did not. Now we move into the year 1854 for the follow-up novel, A Spark Unseen, which begins with two men attempting to kidnap Tully. Katharine and Mary stop them, but not easily. Blood is spilled, the stakes are raised, and new plans have to be made. Katharine and a few trusted individuals journey to Paris, hoping they'll be safer there - and Katharine secretly hopes she will find Lane there as well. But almost immediately she finds more than she was bargaining for in France, where secrets, suspicions, and nosy neighbors abound. In her follow-up to her engrossing novel The Dark Unwinding, author Sharon Cameron continues to weave together suspense and science in a story filled with both strong and sympathetic characters. Tully's sweet disposition remains unspoiled by the darkness surrounding him; it is easy to understand why his smile helps lighten his niece's heavy heart. I shan't spoil Lane's reappearance and storyline, but I will say it's cool. I appreciate Katharine's cleverness and Tully's smarts; each are crafty in different ways.

When Katharine Tullman took charge of her uncle's estate two years ago, she knew there would be difficulties. She knew there were people who might want Uncle Tully and his brilliant mind; people who might do anything to secure his genius for their own purposes. She just didn't know she would be dealing with these circumstances on her own. Nearly two years have past since Lane Moreau left Katharine behind at Stranwyne, promising he would return to her when he could. Katharine has been able, if not happy, to wait until Lane disappears. When she wakes in the night to witness a kidnapping attempt on her uncle, Katharine knows it is time to leave her beloved home. She travels to Paris hoping to find answers and security for herself and those she holds dear. If she is very lucky, she hopes she will also find Lane. Unfortunately nothing in Paris is as Katharine expects. Soon enough she caught up in a web of deceit and the political machinations of two governments. Everyone wants something from Katharine or her uncle. But only Katharine can decide whom she can trust in *A Spark Unseen* (2013) by Sharon Cameron. *A Spark Unseen* is the followup to Cameron's debut novel *The Dark Unwinding*. This story picks up two years after the events of *The Dark Unwinding* in 1854. After the opening chapters the majority of the novel is set in Paris, France. Unfortunately, this book suffers for the location change. Stranwyne is so vivid and evocative that it became a character in *The Dark Unwinding*. By comparison, the Parisian atmosphere in this novel feels dry and unexciting and much of the beauty was lost with the French backdrop.

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