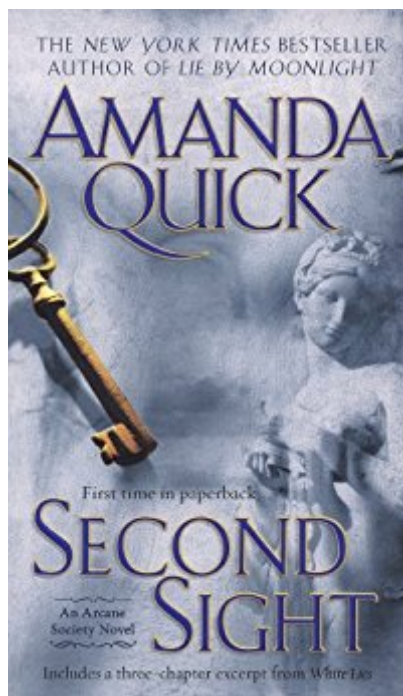


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Second Sight (Arcane Society Series Book 1)



Synopsis

New York Times bestselling author Amanda Quick invites you to experience a thrilling adventure filled with the lure of ancient secrets and the simmering passions of the Victorian age in the first Arcane Society novel. Venetia Milton's memories of a romantic night with Gabriel Jones—an alchemist's descendant—are shattered soon thereafter by news of his death. Adopting the guise of his respectable widow, she embarks on a new career as a fashionable photographer in London, where her unique ability to "see" beyond her subjects makes her photographs highly prized. But Venetia's romantic whim causes unexpected trouble. For one thing, Mr. Jones is about to stride, living and breathing, back into her life. And someone he is tracking will go to any lengths, even murder, to possess an ancient, extraordinary secret that has been lost for centuries. Someone who believes that as the "wife" of Mr. Jones, Venetia is the key...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the story of Venetia Milton, a 19th-Century photographer who takes a job in a remote (I never

could figure out where) location for a wealthy and attractive client, Gabriel Jones. Memorable sex ensues -- the flirtation prior to their encounter was probably the best part of the book -- followed by a home invasion of sorts and a disastrous fire. In their next encounter, months later in London, the two lovers have become distant and full of restraint. This is due, evidently, to Venetia's sense of propriety. They agree--for purposes of solving the Arcane House burglary and ongoing stalking--to cohabit and to appear married. It seemed very stilted to have her be so stand-offish (even some secret musings about her desire for Jones would have gone a long way), with the hunky Gabriel living in Venetia's attic and her bouncing out to run her photo studio or pursue her own leads every day. Overall, this book didn't work for me.

This was my first Amanda Quick book. It got off to a good start, but gradually declined into a boring state of affairs. I was finding myself wondering why the pace was so slow and ponderous while Gabriel's, Venetia's, and possibly Caleb's lives were in danger. I was wondering WHERE is this book going and WHEN are we going to get there!?? UGH! The logic behind their strategy to unravel the murders and mystery was so weak. For what is supposed to be a romance, there was no sexual chemistry beyond the initial contact. Gabriel seemed pretty dull. Venetia pretty stiff while flaunting the "I gotta be an independent female" thing. I made it halfway through - to the scene when Venetia dressed as a man - and it just put me over the edge. It's like the author was just writing whatever to fill the pages - so insipid and cliched. I can't waste my time reading this stuff when there are so many good books to be had. What a disappointment. I won't be rushing into reading any other books by this author.

SECOND SIGHT is the first book in the Arcane series about people who possess psychic abilities. The books cross genres and Jayne Ann Krentz had written books in the series under JAK, Amanda Quick and Jayne Castle. SECOND SIGHT is the story of Venetia Milton who is a photographer who also has the psychic ability of seeing auras. She is hired by the Arcane Society to photograph various relics in a remote house. There she meets Gabriel Jones and decides to seduce him. After one night, danger comes to the house and Gabriel sends Venetia away. She learns of his death in the newspaper that Mr. Jones was found dead. She decides to adopt his name in her pretense of being a widow for her business. She is surprised when several months later her dead "husband" returns. I loved this book because I was entranced by Venetia and Gabriel. The characters are strong, well drawn and interesting. The characters are on the same page almost immediately and their sexual chemistry exudes from the pages. The entire world created better is fascinating. This

book is the beginning of a great series. I especially like how the mysteries are spread out amongst the various books and yet each book is complete unto itself. I've read this book a half dozen times and could read it a dozen more.

Excellent murder mystery: suspenseful and intriguing; hope to read the entire series.

The Arcane Society is a group of magic users who exist within a wider mundane world and have been organized since the 16th century. The author, writing under multiple pen names, has novels with this world view in both the late Victorian era and modern times. This is the first (chronologically) set in the 19th century and begins a series of at least three. (White Lies and The Perfect Poison follow.) I accidentally read them out of order, but each is sufficiently self-contained that it didn't matter too much. The "bodice ripper" sections seemed rather formulaic - spinster decides to get laid, target is in the Arcane Society, she has magic too, he "takes" her virginity, they beat the bad guys and get married. The individual plots are interesting though and it's a nice adventure as you learn more about the Author's theories of magic and how they relate to good vs. evil plotting. I picked up these because I really enjoy Mercedes Lackey's Elemental Masters series. These have more sex and less plot, but they're still quite enjoyable.

Great story, overpriced kindle book

Always enjoy Arcane stories

good

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