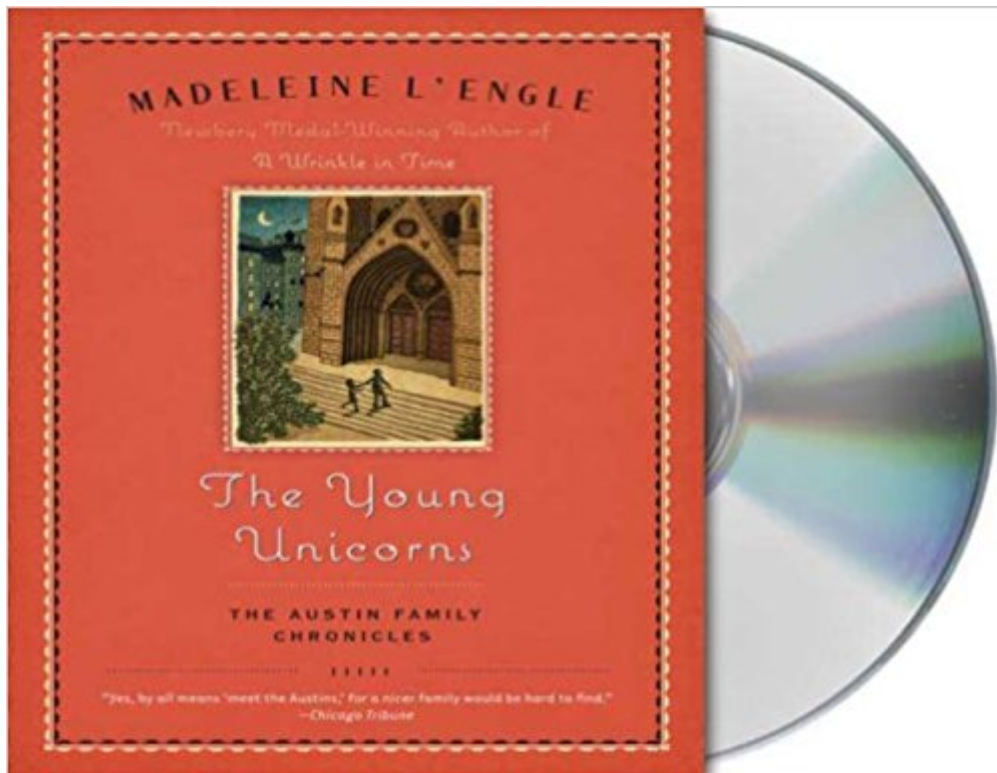




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The Young Unicorns - CANCELLED (Austin Family)



Synopsis

The Austins are trying to settle into their new life in New York City, but their once close-knit family is pulling away from each other. Their father spends long hours alone in his study working on the research project that brought the family to the city. John is away at college. Rob is making friends with people in the neighborhood: newspaper vendors, dog walkers, even the local rabbi. Suzy is blossoming into a vivacious young woman. And Vicky has become closer to Emily Gregory, a blind and brilliant young musician, than to her sister Suzy. With the Austins going in different directions, they don't notice that something sinister is going on in their neighborhood and it's centered around them. A mysterious genie appears before Rob and Emily. A stranger approaches Vicky in the park and calls her by name. Members of a local gang are following their father. The entire Austin family is in danger. If they don't start telling each other what's going on, someone just might get killed.

Book Information

Series: Austin Family

Audio CD

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Customer Reviews

“A first-rate suspense story.” • The Washington Post Book World --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

They had been standing around the lamp, looking at Emily holding it in her strong fingers, rubbing it. Certainly none of them, not even Rob, expected to hear a sepulchral voice behind them. "You called me?" They swung around... --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

I have this book in both hard cover and kindle version. I have read these books ever since I was a young girl.

Another great book for young adults in the "Meet the Austins" series of Madeline L'Engle.

Unlike in the Time quintet, the evil in this book is human... There is, of course, the evil that is the thing that a human has done. But there is also the evil that is the relational mess and emotional turmoil that goes on and must be resolved. This is a beautifully written and beautifully created story that will draw you into its life to experience the emotion and the resolution fully. The heroine is a young blind girl; and as a female who is blind, I must say that I am most impressed with the character development. Emily is not portrayed as a person with some kind of superhuman ability that develops in spite of her lack of sight; nor is she portrayed in any way as someone who has something to overcome that has to do with blindness itself. Her blindness is a personal characteristic that is sometimes irritating to her and causes her frustration at times; but she also is skilled at coping with it in her daily life, and when presented with the opportunity to take advantage of it in order to solve the community dilemma, she does so. Emily's true struggle is in other areas of life; and this is the genius that is L'Engle's work in developing her character. She is a child struggling to find her identity; and she is acutely aware of the relational and emotional issues affecting the family with whom she lives. The depth of her friendship with Vicky is truly touching. As deeply touching is the impact of that friendship on Susy--and while I was never personally drawn to Susy, I found myself empathizing with her at times while reading this book. I had difficulty deciding whether I identified more with Emily or Vicky. (It is still a toss-up.)

Fun and entertaining and with some theology and ethics thrown in. Adults, young adults and some children could all enjoy this in different ways

When you think about when her books were written you see that she wrote about things like lasers long before sci-fi was common and the concepts understood by the masses. Her characters are so alive - even the villains have referencing qualities and her heroes are far from perfect. I read this book as a girl and then as an adult and enjoyed it both times in different ways.

Her books are always a good and thoughtful read in which I always learn something. She tells a

good story, and I've really enjoyed following the Austin family.

While this is a continuation of the Austin Family series, this book has more of a sense of menace than the others. As always, L'Engle brings important ideas into her stories - there's a lot to talk about.

I love her writing, and I enjoy reading about the Austin family. I read her as a teen and now I read her as an older adult!

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