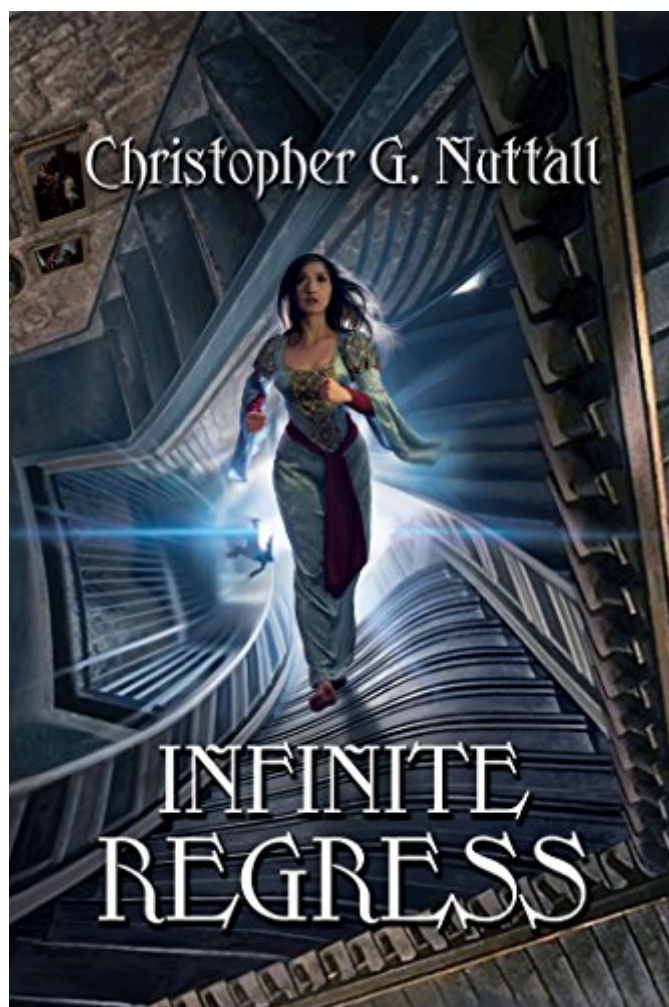


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Infinite Regress (Schooled In Magic Book 9)



Synopsis

An all-new story arc begins here! The new Grandmaster of Whitehall doesn't want Emily in his school. She's dangerous, he thinks. The only way he'll allow her to return to Whitehall is if she chooses to be a probationary student, a student who can be expelled at the slightest excuse, a student who has to work for one of the professors. Reluctantly, unwilling to leave her first true home, Emily accepts. But she rapidly discovers that she's about to be pushed right to the limit. She's expected to do her studies, continue her private research... and mentor a group of young students who are new to the school. She has to supervise them, all the while trying to balance her schoolwork with her growing relationship with Caleb. It isn't an easy task. And when Professor Locke starts opening the tunnels under the school, hunting for the lost secrets of Old Whitehall, he triggers a series of disasters that threaten to tear the school apart. As the staff and students struggle to survive, with the very walls collapsing in around them, Emily is forced to solve a disturbing mystery..... And figure out what it has to do with her private research, before the entire school comes to a final catastrophic end.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Still an enjoyable series after 9 books, but this latest one was probably my least favorite. What I enjoy most about this series is the political intrigue and how this society reacts to Emily's modern ideas. Unfortunately, this book had little of that. I feel like there was a lot of retread in this plot. Mainly, the school is in trouble, lives are at stake, and only Emily seems smart enough to save them. Half of the story is just everyone trapped, and trying to find a way out. It got monotonous after a while. How is this school even still open? They must have great liability insurance. Also, and this was the part that annoyed me the most, the higher ups still did not trust or was threatening Emily even after she had saved their lives several times. For me, that stretched willful ignorance of reality to its limits. It makes you lose respect for Emily a little bit because she just takes it even after all she has done for them. Ended on a cliffhanger, and even though I was disappointed with this book, I am still looking forward to seeing what happens next.

I wish I could go 3 and half stars. Read the series in order to understand what is going on. This is somehow the least satisfying of the series. Part of the reason I dislike this is it ends on a cliffhanger. Why does Emily generate enemies for no reason? The new headmaster wants to expel her, without understanding all the facts. A "villain" who is smart enough to be headmaster; but too simple to understand the basis of everything Emily has done. Why aren't her teachers more scared of her? She has killed two necromancers - no other magicians has ever killed even one. She banished a Mimic - a feat no other magician has accomplished. She stopped two powerful magical families entire magical arsenal, destroyed the royal magic wards, and finally killed one of the deadliest champion duelist in a magic duel. Even lone powers, let alone her teachers have not, could not accomplish all this. They should be intimidated. The logic of her professors pushing buttons on spell he does not begin to understand is so stupid that it should belong to a three year old not a professor. I sure hope the second book reveals a magical compulsion of some kind because this action is so stupid it borders on unbelievable. Emily's relationship with boys also borders on psychotic with not enough underlying facts to explain the true reasons for her neuroses. These logic leaps all bothered me and I hate cliffhangers.

This is the weakest book in the series. Many things don't make sense...particularly the school administration's highly inconsistent behaviour towards Emily. Loses one star for being half a book and leaving us with a cliffhanger.

I've come to love Emily and enjoyed being with her in this new adventure. Then again, not much happens in this addition. Yet on the other hand, holy smokes Emily just can't catch a break. Warning: In the same breath that the author tells us that he doesn't like chapter books (like Games of Thrones) he makes a left turn and throws a chapter book at us. Book 9 doesn't end... I'm left hanging waiting for Book 10. You might want to wait until Book 10 is published before you start this one.

Perhaps 3 1/2 stars. There comes a time when a series has been wrung out. When time travel comes up, that generally means the regular plot line has come up a bit dry. Here we have multiple instances of a stale series... a two-volume story, time travel, and I'm afraid to say, I'm getting tired of the characters. Perhaps it's time for Mr. Nuttall to wrap things up with Emily.

Infinite Regress struggles in the same way that certain works do after a series has gone on more than a few books. It becomes obvious a handful of chapters in that you're reading filler and pulp, with some advancing plot thrown in, but that the author had a much grander scheme in mind, but is being forced into a 2 part story. Given his stated promise in book that part 2 is swiftly coming, and this only happened after 9 books, its quite forgivable. But its annoying in that one of the main appeals is that every Schooled in Magic book is a wholly contained story. You might be somewhat lost on detail, but you can pick up book 6 and read it and have a complete story that doesn't mandate you reading some nit in book 2 for it to make sense. Emily is back at Whitehall, and very few are happy about that. Insulated from the political fallout of the previous story in the schools very Swiss like neutrality, everyone still wants her out. The Grandmaster loathes her openly, the students are terrified of her, and her duties are so packed in that she has little time for much else. And best of all, shes been voluntold to assist in the search of Whitehalls underbelly, into a maze of halls and magical laboratories that was carefully hidden and thus hasn't been opened since the time of Lord Whitehall. Theres some crammed in material that's very out of place. A bit on cyberbullying by any other name. Some material on magical training that would've been helpful several books earlier. The twist also had a few too many pointers that made it very easy to figure out, but artful handling of characters and recent plot make this still a very worthwhile read, although many might want to wait until part 2 comes out.

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