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Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy

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“She wiped her eyes. He didn’t know anything. He didn’t know anything at all. If she wanted to rescue the boy and find the sword and save the world, then she could. And she would.” – page 111

Ophelia Jane Worthington-Whittard prefers to think logically. She is a member of the Children’s Science Society of Greater London, after all. After Ophelia’s mother dies, Ophelia’s father, an expert on swords, takes a job at an odd museum in a city where it always snows. While wandering through the labyrinthine museum, Ophelia stumbles upon a boy locked in a hidden room; the boy tells Ophelia that over three hundred years ago, he was sent by wizards from a distant land to help defeat the Snow Queen with a magical sword. And he has been waiting for Ophelia. The boy’s story isn’t at all logical, but if Ophelia decides to help the boy save the world, she may have to leave all sense and rationality behind.

Based on the tale of the Snow Queen, *Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy* is a story within a story. In between Ophelia’s errands throughout the museum, the boy narrates his incredible three-hundred-year life and as Ophelia learns exactly how the boy reached the museum, she discovers her own courage and with it, a new sense of self. Over the course of the work, Ophelia learns about trust and the value of friendship as well as the value of family, she learns that it is ok to grieve and that not everything is logical (but also that being illogical doesn’t necessarily make something nonsense), and perhaps most importantly, Ophelia learns the importance of never giving up. Through magic, snow leopards, misery birds, ghosts, and an ever-changing museum, *Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy* presents readers with a collection of profound themes.