



The Animatist

Bruce Kluckhohn

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A minstrel's daughter living in thirteenth century Europe, Kasindra Keene has never been too interested in the concerns of others. Rather than frivolous social constructs or religious superstitions, the fifteen-year-old prefers to devote her energies toward her relationship with the natural world-a bond so strong, and so uncanny, that she sometimes seems to be one with nature itself.

But when she is forced to enroll in an academy for maidens, Kasindra must suddenly confront the complications that arise when interacting with the human world. As she completes her research into human history and philosophy, and begins strengthening her abilities, the teen receives a frightening warning by way of a vision-and soon realizes not everyone is who or what they appear to be.

When an unexpected tragedy suddenly pulls her from her studies, Kasindra discovers her world is nothing like it was. Soon, she is pursued by someone so dark, so desperate for revenge, that tapping into the power of her mind could be Kasindra's only saving grace.

A unique supernatural tale featuring one young woman's coming of age, *The Animatist* takes a thought-provoking look at the best and worst of humanity in a captivating historical setting.

The Animatist Details

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Author : Bruce Kluckhohn

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From Reader Review The Animatist for online ebook

Caly ? Crazy Book Lady says

Was all set to give this book 5 stars until the ending which I will not spoil and go into. Overall it is a great story with a message I could relate to but is not thrown in your face. Likeable characters and a fast moving plot. If only there was a sequel to continue the story... it would have rated 5 stars from me.

Larissa says

Bruce Kluckhohn does a fabulous job of bringing his characters and settings to life in "The Animatist."

When the story begins, Kasindra is a naive but strong willed 15 year old girl with the ability to communicate and control nature. Her father downplays her abilities, but starts to worry when her powers reach a point that he can't ignore them anymore. After an incident with a wolf and a disaster involving a nobleman, he speaks with his brother (a minor baron) and they decide she must either marry or go to school.

At this point the story really kicks into gear in a large Romanesque estate where an eccentric elderly dutchess instructs young girls in an extremely liberal fashion. A lovely cast of characters are introduced from this point forward including an evil enchantress, a friend who becomes something more, two dwarf brothers, a crusader knight, and a well meaning priest with terrifying intentions. As Kasindra is pulled by events beyond her control, she grows into a formidable force while never losing her sense of morality.

Throughout the fast moving story, the characters have fascinating discussions involving religion, morality, and the raison d'etre for humanity.

Highly recommended.

Kathleen Shanley says

The characters drew me in and I could not put the book down. Mr. Kluckhohn's descriptive language transports you to Medieval times and what a gifted young girl experiences. In addition to being entertaining, the book has a message to stay true to your values and your friends and family because that is what is important in the end.

Galena Public Library says

The main protagonist of "The Animatist" is Kasindra, a young girl with a fascinating bond to nature living in medieval France. Throughout the book she grows in power and maturity while traveling with her minstrel father, attending a progressive girl's school, battling with a greedy enchantress, debating religion, handling the affairs of her family estate, and contending with nefarious plots.

