

"The Star of Kazan" reviewed by Link on July 10, 2014

Title:

The Star of Kazan

Author:

Ibbotson, Eva

This is a:

audiobook

Your Review:

Anika, a foundling taken in by servants in 19th century Vienna has a happy childhood being a useful housekeeper and cook, acting out stories with her friends, and generally bringing joy to her neighborhood community. She dreams of her biological mother finding her, but when her dream becomes a reality, things are not as she imagined. The setting and an ensemble of characters are richly developed. Often small descriptions or objects that initially craft a character development return in significant and surprising ways to the major story arch. The result is charming and satisfying. The narrator's distinct voice changes enhance the distinctive personalities across the ensemble of characters. Excellent delivery and timing make complex temporal flashback and setting changes easy to follow.

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