

## The Witch of Leper Cove: a tale of the 13th century By Deborah Bogen

It's the 13th century and the Holy Mother Church is under attack. Pope Honorius creates the Inquisition and sends Dominican Friars into Christendom to root out and punish heretics. In the quiet English village of Aldinoch sixteen-year-old Lily and her twin brothers are recovering from the mysterious disappearance of their parents: When Alice is accused of witchcraft and imprisoned by the Inquisition Lily and her brothers know they must try to free her: To do so they'll need allies and a great deal of courage - especially now that Alice has been named The Witch of Leper Cove: The Witch of Leper Cove: a tale of the 13th century Lyllie Edric and Wyllym suddenly find themselves orphaned and alone in the town of Aldinoch England in the 13th century: The siblings are separated and given to local residents to raise: Lily finds herself under the guidance of Alice the town's healer while Wyll is sent to work hard and Edric enters the Church: Alice is kind and wise and she tends to a group of lepers who are isolated from the community: The lives of the three siblings continue to intertwine as they each struggle to adjust to their new circumstances: A local cleric who is bent on rising to power within the church commits a fraud and he sets Alice to take the blame, What follows is an exciting spellbinding rush of conflict that kept me flipping pages hooked completely on the story, This is the kind of book that all will enjoy - young adults as well as adults. The history was well researched and weaved into the story with veracity. It is an enduring tale of love and loss danger and victimization: More importantly it is about strength and the will to survive despite the adversity life can throw at us. I loved it! English I really enjoyed this book and found myself caring about Lily Alice and the other characters within this well told story, I'm about to start on the second book in this trilogy my only regret is that the third one hasn't been published yet. English I received a copy of this in exchange for review. I'll preface my comments by saying that this book has 20 positive reviews on Amazon, So my disinterest is likely a fault of my own (or those reviews are by friends of the author), It's very basic choppy and uncomplicated; this is not a complaint but rather just commentary since it's not entirely clear who is the target audience based on the book's summary. The writing style didn't bother me once I set myself in the mind of a middle school kid but wow the info-dumping did. The first 6 chapters have only a couple lines of dialogue because the author spends the whole time telling us what has gone on: It goes back to the age-old critique: Show us; don't tell us. We want to experience the kids' actions not be told about them after the fact by an omnipotent narrator: Finally truth be told I found the story to be well boring, Again I'm sure a lot of people have liked/will like this book. Lily has been apprenticed to the village healer Alice. A truly lovely story! One to savor and enjoy. That being said I couldn't get into this at all. The writing style is definitely aimed at middle school age. It just wasn't interesting to me. English

