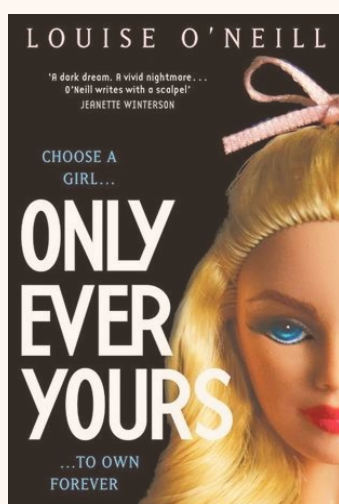


*Fantasy
by*



The end of the summer is the perfect time for some escapism, and this year's crop of YA fantasy novels is truly outstanding. Travel to strange and different worlds – from the Viking-inspired Shattered Sea in *Half a King*, to steampunk Victorian England, or perhaps a faerie realm. You think you have problems? Prepare for a truly unsettling fictional ride in *The 5th Wave* or *Only Ever Yours*. Forget required reading . . . these books are guaranteed to transport you.



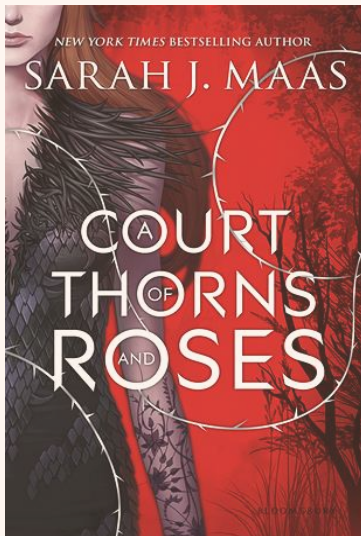
Only Ever Yours
by Louise O' Neill

In this futuristic, dystopian world, women ('eves') are made, not born. Females are genetically engineered to be physically perfect – all for the express purpose of pleasing men. Frieda and Isabel have been best friends for years, but during their last year of School – before the final selection ceremony – the constant competition and ugly secrets them apart. The winner of the [YA Book Prize 2015](#), *Only Ever Yours* is a chilling, thought-provoking social critique and a must-read.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; dystopian; speculative; friendship; social media; eating disorders; feminism

This book contains emotionally disturbing material and some strong language



A Court of Thorns and Roses

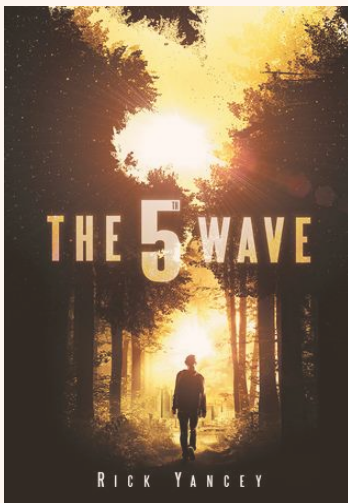
by Sarah J. Maas

Deep in the winter woods, 19 year-old Feyre kills a wolf and unknowingly triggers a dark curse. Taken hostage by the fearsome Tamlin, Feyre is trapped in a luxurious but confining world. Despite their bad beginning, Feyre's sympathy for her captor grows – until she is willing to risk her own life to save him. The compelling and romantic fantasy sets the Beauty and the Beast motif in a complex faerie realm.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; fairy-tale retellings; action; romance; faerie

This book contains violence and sexuality.



The 5th Wave

by Rick Yancey

When aliens touch down on Earth there are four waves of destruction. Now that the 4th wave of pestilence has killed most of the human population, the 5th wave has begun. Children and teenagers are being trained as soldiers, but are they killing aliens impersonating humans – or only the last human survivors? With great characters and constant heart-racing tension, this sci-fi thriller has won over readers who don't usually read this genre.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; post-apocalyptic; science fiction; action; thriller; romance

This book contains violence and a few instances of strong language.



Red Queen

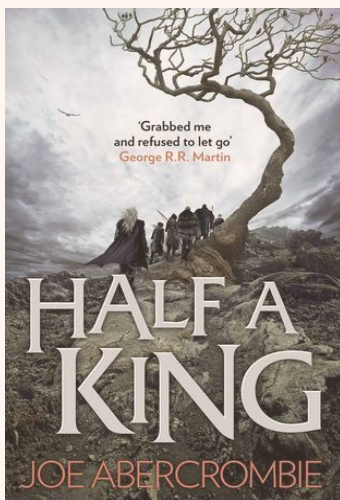
by Victoria Aveyard

In the Kingdom of Norta, the Silvers are born to rule while the Reds are born to serve. Any Red who cannot find a job will become cannon fodder in the long-running war. Mare is a lowly Red, a former pick-pocket turned serving girl; but when it is discovered that she possesses an unusual power, the Royal Court decides to make different use of her. Mare is transformed into a long-lost Silver noble and engaged to Maven, the younger prince. It is a dangerous game of subterfuge, made even riskier when a Red

terrorist operative enlists Mare's help.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; paranormal; magic; romance; war; politics



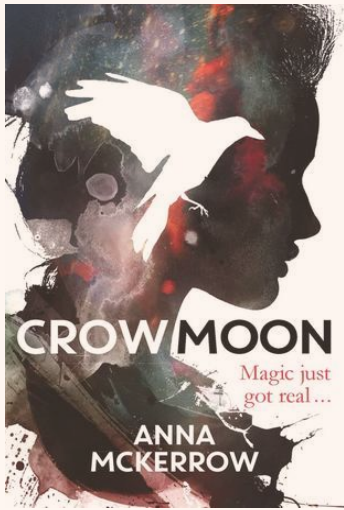
Half a King

by Joe Abercrombie

Prince Yarvi – a second son, born with a crippled hand – never expected to be King. Although he never wanted the throne, when it is brutally taken from him, Yarvi swears vengeance. It is a long, dangerous and cold road back to the Black Chair of Thorlby, and Yarvi will need the help of some unlikely allies to get there. This epic fantasy, the first of a trilogy, is a must-read for fans of the genre. Witty, fast-paced and full of surprises.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; epic fantasy; friendship; action; adventure



Crow Moon

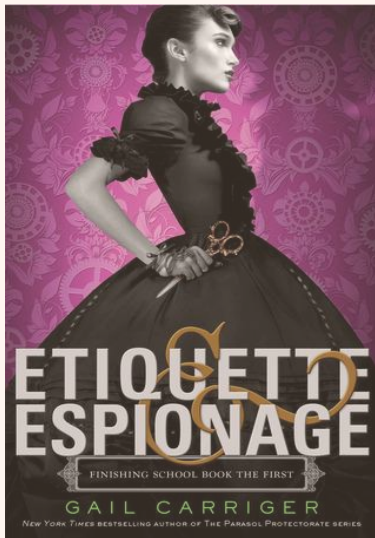
by Anna McKerrrow

As the world runs out of fossil fuel, environmentally minded people have established a “Greenworld” in Devon and Cornwall and returned to the old ways of living. Powerful witches, like Danny’s mother, work to keep out the unscrupulous gangs who would exploit the earth’s natural energy. Danny is more interested in girls than magic, but he is drawn into the battle between the Greenworld and the gangs. Although Danny doesn’t understand his own magic, forces on both sides need it – and will stop at

nothing to get it.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; post-apocalyptic; paranormal; magic; adventure; family; romance; environment; witches



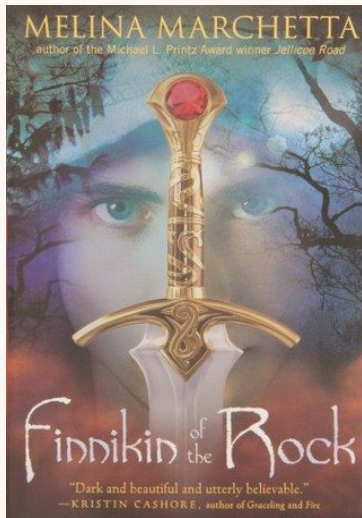
Etiquette & Espionage

by Gail Carriger

Although her mother despairs of her unladylike qualities, Sophronia’s pluck and curiosity get her recruited for a most unusual finishing school. There, Sophronia will learn the fine art of espionage – alongside proper curtsies, fainting, dancing and the many uses of a handkerchief. This delightful story of daring young women, eccentric (and sometimes supernatural) teachers and unusual gadgets is set in a steampunked version of Victorian England.

Reading and interest level: 12+

Genre: fantasy; paranormal; historical; steampunk; friendship; boarding school; Victorian England



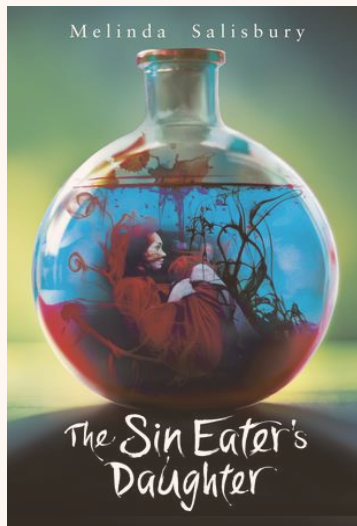
Finnikin of the Rock

by Melina Marchetta

It has been ten years since the kingdom of Lumatere fell to a murderous imposter, and in that decade Finnikin and his mentor have roamed the land of Skuldenore collecting the names of the living and the dead. When a mysterious novice named Evangalin claims that the rightful heir to Lumatere is still alive, she persuades Finnikin to undertake a dangerous, far-reaching journey to unite the exiles of Lumatere. This epic fantasy -- full of intrigue, magic and surprising twists -- is the first in a trilogy, but also a satisfying stand-alone novel.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; epic fantasy; magic; adventure; romance



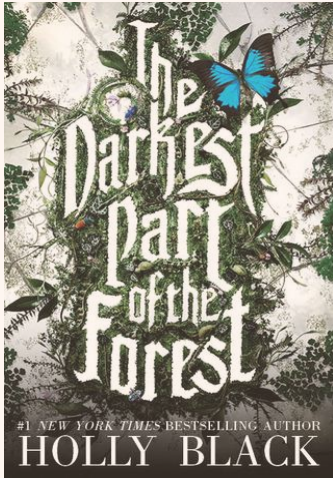
The Sin-Eater's Daughter

by Melinda Salisbury

Twyla is like a bird in a golden cage: she sings for the royal court, she prays, and one day she will marry the prince. But Twylla's role in the kingdom is more than decorative; because her touch is deadly, she also serves as royal executioner. When an outsider to the kingdom takes over as Twylla's guard, she draws dangerously close to him. The royal court has many secrets and conspiracies, and Twylla finds herself at the heart of them.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; romance; myth; fairytale retellings



The Darkest Part of the Forest by Holly Black

In the town of Fairfold, humans and faeries have lived side by side – more or less harmoniously – for as long as anyone can remember. But as mischief gradually becomes more deadly, human siblings Ben and Hazel are drawn into the faerie realm. When the beautiful faerie prince is liberated from his glass coffin, the vengeful Alderking demands retribution. Hazel wakes up, covered in the glass and mud, but with no memory of the night’s events.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; paranormal; faerie, friendship; family; romance; legend; LGBT

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