

These Feathered Flames

Book Club Kit

Inkyard Press | April 20 2021 | Hardcover, 496 pages | \$18.99
Age 14+ | 1335147969

About the Book

When twin heirs are born in Tóurin, their fates are decided at a young age. While Izaveta remained at court to learn the skills she'd need as the future queen, Asya was taken away to train with her aunt, the mysterious Firebird, who ensured magic remained balanced in the realm.

But before Asya's training is completed, the ancient power blooms inside her, which can mean only one thing: the queen is dead, and a new ruler must be crowned.

As the princesses come to understand everything their roles entail, they'll discover who they can trust, who they can love—and who killed their mother.

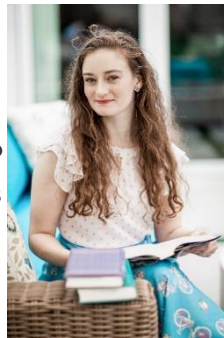


Content Warnings:

Death of a parent, emotional and physical abuse, on page death, fantasy violence.

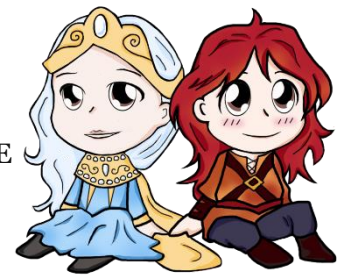
About the Author

Alexandra grew up in London and now lives in Los Angeles. She loves writing in all formats, from novels to screenplays to graphic novels, always centring on fierce women and morally grey characters, often with a bit of magic and murder.



Quick Pitch:

- 👉 Sansa/Arya sister vibes
- 👉 f/f enemies to lovers
- 👉 a cinnamon roll who thinks she's a monster
- 👉 a devious princess
- 👉 snarky soft boy scholar
- 🌍 Russian folklore
- 👉 BEARS YOU CAN RIDE



Discussion Questions

Spoilers ahead!

1. The people of Tóurin have grown to fear the Firebird. Why do you think they have this fear when the Firebird is only doing what needs to be done? Is their fear justified? Why or why not?
2. Asya and Izaveta have not seen each other for ten years. Examine the expectations of each sister for the other. How are those expectations met or not met?
3. Izaveta is intent on gaining power and influence in the court and is willing to sacrifice anything to get it. Do you agree with her ambition? Are there things that you would not be willing to sacrifice for power and influence?
4. Do you think that magic should have a price? Why or why not?
5. The Order of the Captured Flame was willing to go to extreme measures to ensure their beliefs were upheld. Do you think their actions were justified? Were there better ways they could have approached the situation? Why do you think they didn't use those methods?
6. There are many ceremonies, celebrations, and traditions in Tóurensi society. Which one did you like best? What was its significance within the plot of the story?
7. Should Izaveta be forgiven for what she did? Why?
8. Asya eventually comes to accept the duties of the Firebird. How does she find peace with the grim task that she needs to do? Do you agree with her choice?
9. If you were in Izaveta's position, would you do anything different? Why or why not?
10. If you were in Asya's position, would you do anything different? Why or why not?



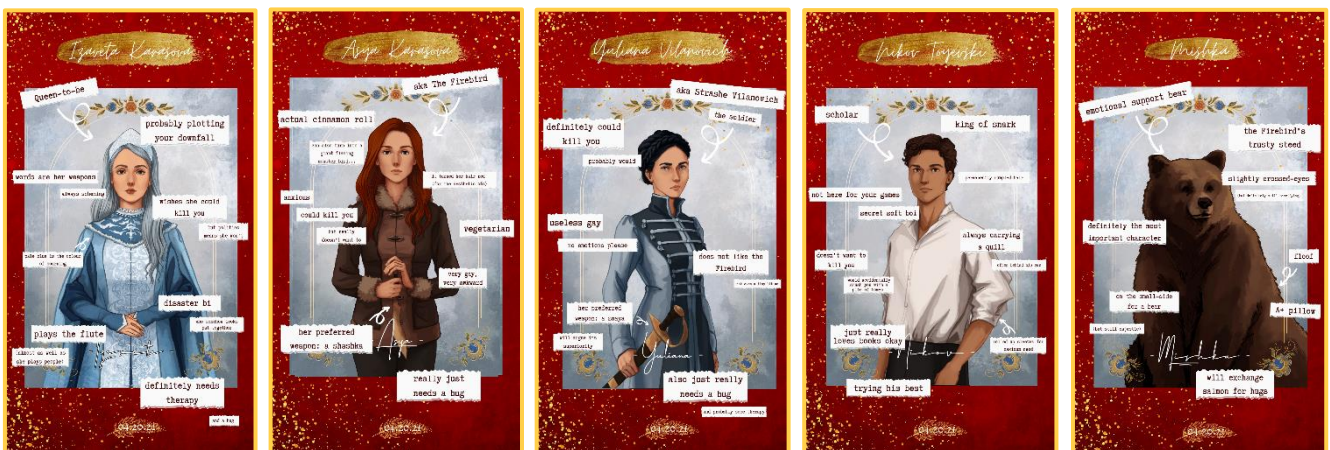
Fun Questions

No right or wrong answers here, though you may of course fight to the death to prove you are correct.

1. Kiss, marry, kill: Yuliana, Nikov, Mishka
2. Kiss, marry, kill: Kyriil, Vibishop Sanislav, Fyodor
3. Who would win in a fight Zvezda, Tarya or Iveshkin?
4. Znaya or shashka, which really sword is really superior?
5. Which character would win a game of the floor is lava?
6. What do you think the main characters' star signs are?
7. What would the AO3 tags be for this book?
8. Would you rather have Mishka or Olyeta as your bear?
9. Who's the best at giving gifts: Izaveta, Asya, Yuliana, or Nikov?
10. In a contemporary AU, what would the main characters college majors be?



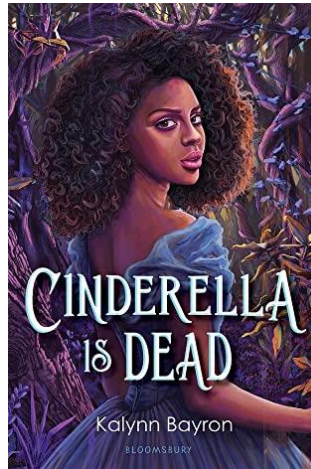
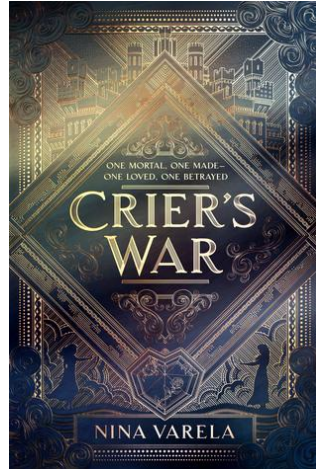
Which character are you?



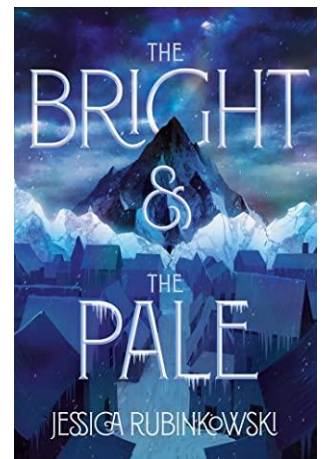
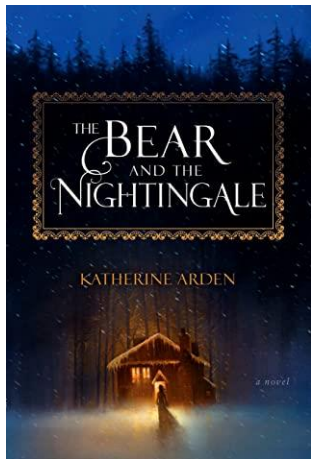
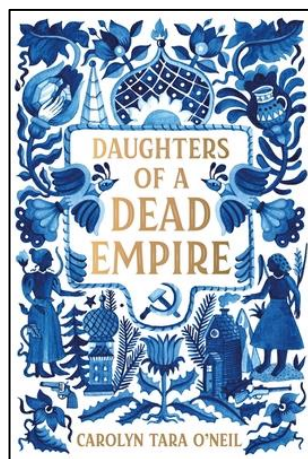
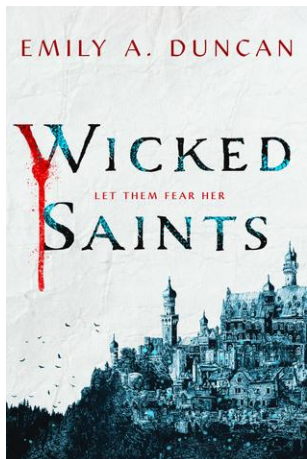
Bonus: Draw some bad fan art of a moment in the book and see if your friends can guess the scene!

What to read next

Looking for more queer fantasy?



Looking for more Russian inspired books?



Looking for more books with morally grey characters?

