



***Empire of Storms* by Sarah J. Maas**

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*Grade Range: (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

The long path to the throne has only just begun for Aelin Galathynius as war looms on the horizon. Loyalties have been broken and bought, friends have been lost and gained, and those who possess magic find themselves increasingly at odds with those who don't.

With her heart sworn to the warrior-prince by her side and her fealty pledged to the people she is determined to save, Aelin will delve into the depths of her power to protect those she loves. But as monsters emerge from the horrors of the past, dark forces stand poised to claim her world. The only chance for salvation lies in a desperate quest that may take more from Aelin than she has to give, a quest that forces her to choose what-and who-she's willing to sacrifice for the sake of peace.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

Kirkus Reviews

In the penultimate Throne of Glass book, Aelin meets unexpected obstacles as her enemies move against her and her allies. Aelin may have put her role as assassin Celaena behind her, but that doesn't mean Terrasen's nobles are willing to hand the kingdom over to a young woman with her kind of past. Knowing the Valg king Erawan is a true threat to the entire world, Aelin must form alliances for the imminent war while uncovering the price once paid to halt Erawan—the price to stop him for good, because he's moving fast and striking hard. This plot expands the world, introducing new delights such as a pirate haven (and—of course—naval battles) and swampy ruins in Eyllwe, as the cast also expands, with nods to the novellas collected in *The Assassin's Blade*. (That said, with the number of characters presented and minimal recap, readers will wish there were a *dramatis personae*.) Much of Aelin's scheming occurs off-page, as secondary characters' viewpoints take on narrative weight—despite the occasional redundancy, this adds richness, as such characters as Manon enjoy deeper development, and Lysandra anchors the best action sequence. Romance runs rife (the main cast is mostly straight, with nods to queer minor characters) and this everyone-is-breathtakingly-beautiful-(and-also-mostly-white) world. Readers of Maas' other series will spot her touch, especially in descriptions of lovemaking and the cliffhanger ending. Tightly plotted, delightful escapism. (Fantasy. 14 & up)

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Goodreads Best Young Adult and Fantasy & Science Fiction nomination (2016)
- PopSugar's Best YA Books of 2016

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***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.