



And I Darken

By Kiersten White

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The *New York Times* Bestseller!

“Absolutely riveting.” —Alexandra Bracken, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Passenger*

This vividly rendered novel reads like HBO’s *Game of Thrones* . . . if it were set in the Ottoman Empire. Ambitious in scope and intimate in execution, the story’s atmospheric setting is rife with political intrigue, with a deftly plotted narrative driven by fiercely passionate characters and a fearsome heroine. Fans of Victoria Aveyard’s *THE RED QUEEN*, Kristin Cashore’s *GRACELING*, and Sabaa Tahir’s *AN EMBER IN THE ASHES* won’t want to miss this visceral, immersive, and mesmerizing novel, the first in a trilogy.

NO ONE EXPECTS A PRINCESS TO BE BRUTAL. And Lada Dragwlya likes it that way. Ever since she and her gentle younger brother, Radu, were wrenched from their homeland of Wallachia and abandoned by their father to be raised in the Ottoman courts, Lada has known that being ruthless is the key to survival. She and Radu are doomed to act as pawns in a vicious game, an unseen sword hovering over their every move. For the lineage that makes them special also makes them targets.

Lada despises the Ottomans and bides her time, planning her vengeance for the day when she can return to Wallachia and claim her birthright. Radu longs only for a place where he feels safe. And when they meet Mehmed, the defiant and lonely son of the sultan, who’s expected to rule a nation, Radu feels that he’s made a true friend—and Lada wonders if she’s finally found someone worthy of her passion.

But Mehmed is heir to the very empire that Lada has sworn to fight against—and that Radu now considers home. Together, Lada, Radu, and Mehmed form a toxic triangle that strains the bonds of love and loyalty to the breaking point.

From *New York Times* bestselling author Kiersten White comes the first book in a dark, sweeping new series in which heads will roll, bodies will be impaled . . . and hearts will be broken.

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And I Darken By Kiersten White Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 10 Up—The first in a trilogy from best-selling author White, this historical adventure set in the mid-15th century tells the story of Lada and Radu, the children of Vlad Dracul, prince of Wallachia (modern-day Romania). Shouldered with the inescapable curse of being female and the unrelenting burden of her beautiful, sensitive, and physically inept brother, Radu, Lada is perpetually spoiling for a fight. When her father tries to secure his throne by giving the children as hostages to the Ottoman Empire, Lada and Radu must find a way to survive and thrive in a world where no one cares if they live or die. They befriend the young Ottoman heir Mehmet, and the three form a bond of friendship that saves their lives and ultimately shapes their adult destinies. Full of sword fights, assassination plots, and palace intrigues, this novel is ambitious in scope and concept and reveals a fascinating, important, and somewhat obscure slice of history. Compared to White's painstaking development of her characters and the fantastic world they inhabit early in the novel, the ending sequence that sets up the next book in the series seems rather abrupt and haphazard. However, as a whole, the novel is breathtakingly good. The brutality and carnality of this time and place in history are faithfully rendered here, making the volume more appropriate for older teen readers. **VERDICT** Highly recommended for all high school collections.—Kelly Kingrey-Edwards, Blinn Junior College, Brenham, TXYA Graphic Novels

Review

“A dark jewel of a story, one that gleams with fierce, cunning characters—absolutely riveting.”
—**Alexandra Bracken**, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Passenger*

“Kiersten White at her absolute best. The epic story will thrill you, the Transylvanian setting will transport you, and the characters (especially the fierce, take-no-prisoners Lada) will capture your heart. Don’t miss it.”
—**Cynthia Hand**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Unearthly* series

“Sweeping and epic, **AND I DARKEN** is a gender-bent take on history that gives us a fierce and brutal heroine, a fascinating time period, and a beautifully intelligent look at love, family, and power. I loved every twisty, bloody moment of it!” —**Rachel Hawkins**, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author

“As richly complex and glittering as the Ottoman Empire itself, **AND I DARKEN** is daring in its scope and brilliantly executed. The fiercely dark Lada is a razor-edged sword tempered in the blood of family betrayals and the fire of her own passions. I was instantly and utterly smitten. She haunted me long after I turned the final page and left me craving more.” —**Robin LaFevers**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *His Fair Assassin* series

“A jewel of a book—a jewel embedded in the hilt of a blood-soaked sword. A brilliantly envisioned alternate history that is meticulously detailed but compulsively readable, this is a story I could not put down. I demand the sequel like Lada demands Wallachia!” —**Beth Revis**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Across the Universe* series

“An intense, risky, passionate novel that dragged me through love and danger with the force of its heroine’s heart and the power of its hero’s faith.” —**Tessa Gratton**, author of the *Gods of New Asgard* series

“Girls with teeth and priorities. I want to read this book forever.” —**E. K. Johnston**, author of *A Thousand*

Nights

★ "Full of sword fights, assassination plots, and palace intrigues, this novel is ambitious in scope and concept and reveals a fascinating, important, and somewhat obscure slice of history...the novel is breathtakingly good." —*School Library Journal* starred review

★ "White deftly weaves historical fact into this complex concoction of love, war, politics, homosexuality, religion, loyalty, and friendship." —*Booklist* starred review

"White excels at presenting an anti-hero who contrasts conventional female heroines. Readers expecting a typical love triangle tale will be surprised, for Lada's characterization is executed in a far-from-stereotypical manner as White challenges femininity and explores the types of power women can wield. White also succeeds in crafting an accessible setting that brings complex historical figures to life."--VOYA

Praise for Kiersten White's novels:

Paranormalcy:

"A fast, flirty roller coaster of a ride. I'm in love!" —Becca Fitzpatrick, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hush, Hush*

"The perfect blend of light and dark. I can't wait for more!" —Carrie Ryan, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Daughter of Deep Silence*

Mind Games:

★ "A tour de force." —*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

★ "Brilliant." —*The Bulletin*, Starred

"An exciting gem." —#1 *New York Times* bestselling author Holly Black

"Sharp, heart-wrenching, and fabulously fun." —Laini Taylor, bestselling author of the National Book Award Finalist *Lips Touch: Three Times* and *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*

The Chaos of Stars:

"Eloquent in its mixing of Egyptology with the experience of being a teenager . . . the character development, action-packed climax, intriguing family dynamics, and heartfelt romance will draw in fans." —VOYA

Illusions of Fate:

"An absolute delight—a magical, sparkling, dangerous world with witty repartee and a romance that will light your heart on fire. Kiersten White's best yet." —Stephanie Perkins, internationally bestselling author of *Anna and the French Kiss*

"This well-written historical fantasy has romance, suspense, a fairy-tale feel, and a great ending that will

leave readers cheering.” —*SLJ*

“Deliciously original in its intriguing plot and irresistible characters. *ILLUSIONS OF FATE* may be filled with spells, but it’s Kiersten White who is truly magic.” —Andrea Cremer, *New York Times* bestselling author of the *Nightshade* series

In the Shadows:

★ “An enthralling, page-turning gothic mystery infused with hair-raising horror.”—*Booklist*, Starred

From the Hardcover edition.

About the Author

KIERSTEN WHITE is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *And I Darken*, *Now I Rise*, the Paranormalcy trilogy, the dark thrillers *Mind Games* and *Perfect Lies*, *The Chaos of Stars*, *Illusions of Fate*, and *In the Shadows* with Jim Di Bartolo. Her books have won several awards, including the Utah Book Award, the Evergreen Young Adult Book Award, and the Whitney Award, and have been named an ALA-YALSA Teen Top Ten Best Book, a Florida Teens Read Selection, and a Texas Lone Star Reading List Selection, among other accolades. She lives with her family near the ocean in San Diego, which, in spite of its perfection, spurs her to dream of faraway places and even further away times.

kierstenwhite.com

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rose Waldman:

Nowadays reading books are more than want or need but also be a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the particular information inside the book in which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of book you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want experience happy read one along with theme for entertaining like comic or novel. The actual *And I Darken* is kind of guide which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Mary Perez:

The actual book *And I Darken* will bring that you the new experience of reading a book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book you just read, this book very acceptable to you. The book *And I Darken* is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Alma Medina:

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Bryant Davidson:

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