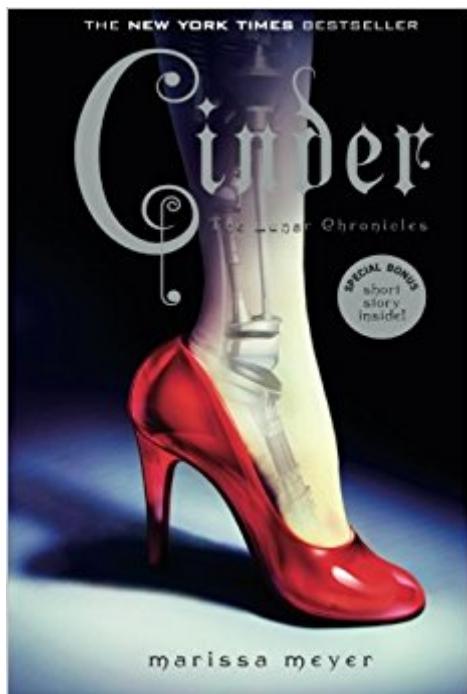


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# Cinder



## Synopsis

The #1 New York Times Bestselling Series! Humans and androids crowd the raucous streets of New Beijing. A deadly plague ravages the population. From space, a ruthless lunar people watch, waiting to make their move. No one knows that Earth's fate hinges on one girl. . . . Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She's a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, reviled by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister's illness. But when her life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai's, she suddenly finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle, and a forbidden attraction. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world's future. Marissa Meyer on Cinder, writing, and leading men

Which of your characters is most like you? I wish I could say that I'm clever and mechanically-minded like Cinder, but no. I can't fix anything. I'm much more like Cress, who makes a brief cameo in Cinder and then takes a more starring role in the third book. She's a romantic and a daydreamer and maybe a little on the naive side. Things that could be said about me too, although she does find courage when it's needed most. I think we'd all like to believe we'd have that same inner strength if we ever needed it.

Where do you write? I have a home office that I've decorated with vintage fairy tale treasures that I've collected (my favorite is a Cinderella cookie jar from the forties) and NaNoWriMo posters, but sometimes writing there starts to feel too much like work. On those days I'll write in bed or take my laptop out for coffee or lunch.

If you were stranded on a desert island, which character from Cinder would you want with you? Cinder, definitely! She has an internet connection in her brain, complete with the ability to send and receive comms (which are similar to e-mails). We'd just have enough time to enjoy some fresh coconut before we were rescued.

The next book in the Lunar Chronicles is called Scarlet, and is about Little Red Riding Hood. What is appealing to you most about this character as you work on the book? Scarlet is awesome. She's very independent, a bit temperamental, and has an outspokenness that tends to get her in trouble sometimes. She was raised by her grandmother, an ex-military pilot who now owns a small farm in southern France, who not only taught Scarlet how to fly a spaceship and shoot a gun, but also to have a healthy respect and appreciation for nature. I guess that's a lot of things that appeal to me about her, but she's been a really fun character to write! (The two leading men in Scarlet, Wolf and Captain Thorne, aren't half bad either.)

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 790L (What's this?)

Series: Lunar Chronicles (Book 1)

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; 2nd edition (2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1250007208

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 30.5 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 3,152 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,053 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore > Adaptations #5 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > Aliens #49 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 8 - 12

## Customer Reviews

“Singing mice and glass slippers are replaced with snarky androids and mechanical feet in this richly imagined and darkly subversive retelling of Cinderella.”

“This is one buzzed novel that totally delivers.”

“I absolutely loved Cinder. Marissa took a well known story and created an amazingly fantastic new twist, making this it an all together new story.”

“Cinder is loads of fun--mostly due to seeing a familiar story play out in a new setting, but Cinder herself is also a tough, smart, mouthy, resourceful heroine, so spending almost 400 pages with her is completely enjoyable--and I’m totally, totally looking forward to the next one in the series.”

“Terrific.”

“Author Marissa Meyer rocks the fractured fairy tale genre with a sci-fi twist on Cinderella.”

“Debut author Meyer ingeniously incorporates key elements of the fairy tale into this first series entry.”

“What they [readers] do not know until they begin turning the pages of this fable-turned-dystopian-science-fiction novel, is that Meyer’s embellishments create a spellbinding story of their own.”

“First in the Lunar Chronicles series, this futuristic twist on Cinderella retains just enough of the original that readers will enjoy spotting the subtle similarities. But debut author Meyer’s brilliance is in sending the story into an entirely new,

utterly thrilling dimension. Publishers Weekly, starred review "Fairy tales are becoming all the rage, with the TV shows Once Upon a Time and Grimm spinning them through a modern filter. The 26-year-old Meyer's debut novel Cinder, though, combines a classic folk tale with hints of The Terminator and Star Wars in the first book of The Lunar Chronicles young-adult series due out Jan. 3." USAToday.com "Cinderella is a cyborg in this futuristic take on the fairy tale, the first book in Ms. Meyer's planned 'Lunar Chronicles' series." Wall Street Journal, in a round-up called "After Harry Potter: The Search for the Magic Formula" "This series opener and debut offers a high coolness factor by rewriting Cinderella as a kickass mechanic in a plague-ridden future." Kirkus Reviews "There's a lot of moving parts in this fresh spin on 'Cinderella,' the first in a four-book series." Booklist

Marissa Meyer was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington, home of Almond Roca and Stadium High School, which was made famous when Heath Ledger danced down the stadium steps in 10 Things I Hate About You. Marissa didn't actually go to Stadium High School, but she did attend Pacific Lutheran University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Creative Writing. She still lives in Tacoma, now with her husband. Cinder is her YA debut.

Cinder is an incredibly unique sci-fi retelling and I loved every minute of it. The characters are my favorite part of this book (as well as the rest of the series). The author has created such interesting characters that are unlike anything I've seen before. Cinder is a cyborg, rescued after a hover accident as a child and adopted by a family from New Beijing. The fact that Cinder is a cyborg is something that sets her apart from the rest of her family and society in general. In this world, cyborgs are looked down upon and considered second class citizens. Cinder therefore has no control over her life and is subject to the orders of her adopted mother. Despite all of this, Cinder is an incredibly strong individual and cares deeply for those important to her. Also, I love that she's the best mechanic in all of New Beijing; it was definitely a unique profession to give her. Prince Kai is dealing with a ton of responsibility being thrust upon him very early in life after his father falls ill with Leumotosis, a sickness slowly infecting all corners of the planet. Due to his new responsibilities, Kai also must deal with Queen Levana of Luna in her quest for an alliance with the Eastern Commonwealth (and the Earthen Union in general). Even under all of the stress of becoming ruler much earlier than anticipated, Kai still manages to have a sense of humor and find time for small joys in life. As to the side characters, Iko is my absolute favorite of the bunch.

Everyone but Cinder believes Iko has a faulty personality chip as she is completely unique and has aspects to her personality that other androids do not, such as a sense of humor, her use of sarcasm and a great love of shoes. Iko is there for Cinder through everything and is an incredible friend to her. As to the other characters, Queen Levana and her entourage of Lunars are particularly evil and easy villains to hate. Cinder's family, with the exception of her sister Peony, is horrible to her and it's hard to feel anything for them other than distaste. Peony however is incredibly sweet and very easy to love. I was never sure what Doctor Erland's motives were, but he did bring about interesting developments in the plot. I adored the small introduction to Cress that we got in this book (she's my favorite character of the series). The world building is pretty good, although we don't learn a lot about the other countries on Earth. I found the blending of cultures (and the explanation for them) to be very interesting. Also, anything to do with Luna was fascinating and I love getting to learn about this whole other planet the author created. The plot is fast-paced and held my interest throughout the book. I enjoyed getting to know more and more about Cinder and how she's connected to everything as the story went on. Overall, I would definitely recommend Cinder if you're looking for a fun series with incredible characters.

Love. Apparently this year I'm going through books that have been on my TBR Kindle shelf wayyyyy too long, and loving each and every one! This series was recommended by one of my husband's students! She knows I am stuck on YA, as it is my all time favorite genre, and now that I have read Cinder, Marissa Meyer is my new favorite author. If you can't tell by the cover, this is loosely based on the Cinderella story, but our heroine just happens to be a cyborg mechanic! This was unique and refreshing and I loved it! Such a great story, fantastic characters, loved the take on Cinderella, and a huge cliffhanger! Love, love. Can't wait to continue Cinder's story in Scarlet. Highly recommended!

4/5 I've been wanting to read this series for a long time. I actually own all four books already and was just waiting to get the time to start it. I'm so glad that I finally got the time to start with Cinder. I really loved this book and everything about it. Loved the twist of a retelling of a fairytale, the characters, the world building and the writing style. I really enjoyed Cinder, she had a hard life already but she is making the best of it. And despite all the things happening to her and around her she still has a sense of humor and I love her sarcasm. I like that she is smart and thinks through stuff before she acts in it. Well most of the time anyways. Though I did figure out pretty quickly what is so special about Cinder but had to

wait for conformation almost at the end of the book. But it was still great. I also enjoyed Kai and his humor. He was easy to get along with and it was also easy to see that he wants change for the better but is put in a hard spot. I also felt bad for him a few times. The only thing that bothered me about him was his reaction at the end, but then again it was kind of understandable. I really liked both Peony and Iko. And that Cinder at least had a few people in her corner. Though not everything turns out great and we witness some heartbreak. Dr. Erland was pretty much out source for information and confirmation. While I enjoyed him I thought he held too much back yet and I really not sure if he can be trusted. I think we will see more of him later on in the series. I really disliked Adri and Pearl of course and hope they will get what they deserve in the end. And last but not least Queen Levina. She is truly evil and I think there is much more to her motives then we let to believe in this book and I can't wait to see what it is. While she is purely evil I also kind of enjoyed her. Overall I really enjoyed this book, it had action, some light romance, while some was easy to guess other things came by surprise. We also get some humor all in a wonderful written world. I can't wait to read the rest of the series. I rate this book 4 ⚡

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