



This Savage Song (Monsters of Verity)

By Victoria Schwab

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This Savage Song (Monsters of Verity) By Victoria Schwab

#1 New York Times Bestseller * An Amazon Best Book of the Year

There's no such thing as safe in a city at war, a city overrun with monsters. In this dark urban fantasy from acclaimed author Victoria Schwab, a young woman and a young man must choose whether to become heroes or villains—and friends or enemies—with the future of their home at stake. The first of two books, *This Savage Song* is a must-have for fans of Holly Black, Maggie Stiefvater, and Laini Taylor.

Kate Harker and August Flynn are the heirs to a divided city—a city where the violence has begun to breed actual monsters. All Kate wants is to be as ruthless as her father, who lets the monsters roam free and makes the humans pay for his protection. All August wants is to be human, as good-hearted as his own father, to play a bigger role in protecting the innocent—but he's one of the monsters. One who can steal a soul with a simple strain of music. When the chance arises to keep an eye on Kate, who's just been kicked out of her sixth boarding school and returned home, August jumps at it. But Kate discovers August's secret, and after a failed assassination attempt the pair must flee for their lives. In *This Savage Song*, Victoria Schwab creates a gritty, seething metropolis, one worthy of being compared to Gotham and to the four versions of London in her critically acclaimed fantasy for adults, *A Darker Shade of Magic*. Her heroes will face monsters intent on destroying them from every side—including the monsters within.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—In a dystopian future, evil deeds begin spawning three kinds of monsters who wreak havoc in human cities; Corsai are created by nonlethal violent acts, Malchai by murders, and Sunai from mass murders. This novel takes place in one such city, which is divided into two parts. Kate Harker's father rules one side by using the monsters as an army and selling protection to residents who can afford it. On the other side, the Flynn family strive to eliminate the Corsai and Malchai by utilizing the deadly talents of the three very rare Sunai who have become part of their family. When Kate returns to the city after being expelled from a slew of boarding schools, August, the newest Sunai, is sent undercover to her elite private school to keep an eye on her. However, the two become unlikely allies when August is framed for an attack that would threaten their fragile peace. This first installment in a planned two-book saga can be described as a postapocalyptic urban fantasy with a Romeo and Juliet theme. The plot unfolds very quickly, with more twists and turns than an average thriller. The budding romance between the main characters is predictable, but Kate and August both undergo an impressive amount of character development, and fans will like them despite their flaws. VERDICT Combined with the nonstop action and the author's immersive writing style, this first purchase is sure to be a hit with older teens and fans of urban fantasy.—Sunnie Scarpa, Wallingford Public Library, CT

Review

“A violently thoughtful, brilliant triumph of a book that will blind you with its genius.” (Gaby Salpeter, Books of Wonder)

“There are no wasted words here, and the end result is a darkly precise narrative that feels like a shiver down the spine...this taut creation about the nature of humanity lingers long after its disquieting finale.” (Booklist (**starred review**))

“Schwab’s latest seems poised to grab both her adult and teen readers; the world is fascinating...the characters complicated, and the political machinations and emotional depths both charged and compelling. ...Crackling with energy, just the ticket for an all-night read.” (Kirkus Reviews)

“Schwab explores the natures of justice and humanity in an assuredly built world with a compelling settings and an intriguing music-based magic. And in August and his Sunai siblings, she introduces a type of monster both sympathetic and terrifying. A cliffhanger ending promises a sequel.” (The Horn Book)

“Kate and August both undergo an impressive amount of character development, and fans will like them despite their flaws. Combined with the nonstop action and the author’s immersive writing style, this first purchase is sure to be a hit with older teens and fans of urban fantasy.” (School Library Journal)

“Schwab has built a strange, captivating alternate America filled with offbeat, fascinating characters. ...Readers looking for a dangerous and engrossing new world to fall into will find it with this fast-paced, frightening read.” (Publishers Weekly)

“The pacing is fast, the narrative entralling, but it is the depths of the novel - its acuteness of moral imagination and perception - that will stay with you afterward. My highest recommendation.” (San Diego Union-Tribune)

“Gritty dialogue and realistic scenes of violence will have senior high school students who enjoy The Hunger Games and Divergent series awaiting the next book in this series.” (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

“Unique, thrilling, and impossible to predict, This Savage Song is something entirely new, and fans of YA will want to seek out this dark and powerful novel. ...Schwab has written a book with moments of cruelty and bleakness that also includes high adventure and heroic achievements.” (Locus)

From the Back Cover

Kate Harker wants to be as ruthless as her father. After five years and six boarding schools, she's finally going home to prove that she can be.

August Flynn wants to be human. But he isn't. He's a monster, one that can steal souls with a song. He's one of the three most powerful monsters in a city overrun with them. His own father's secret weapon.

Their city is divided.

Their city is crumbling.

Kate and August are the only two who see both sides, the only two who could do something.

But how do you decide to be a hero or a villain when it's hard to tell which is which?

Corsai, Corsai, tooth and claw,

Shadow and bone will eat you raw.

Malchai, Malchai, sharp and sly,

Smile and bite and drink you dry.

Sunai, Sunai, eyes like coal,

Sing you a song and steal your soul.

Monsters, monsters, big and small,

They're gonna come and eat you all.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cari Sexton:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a publication your ability to survive increase then having chance to stand than other is high. In your case who want to start reading a book, we give you this kind of This Savage Song (Monsters of Verity) book as starter and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Jeffrey Drake:

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Chad Wood:

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Brenda Moulton:

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