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Wonder Woman: Warbringer (DC Icons Series)



Synopsis

The highly anticipated, entirely new coming-of-age story for the world's greatest super hero: **WONDER WOMAN** by the # 1 New York Times bestselling author **LEIGH BARDUGO**. She will become one of the world's greatest heroes: **WONDER WOMAN**. But first she is Diana, Princess of the s. And her fight is just beginning. . . .

• Diana longs to prove herself to her legendary warrior sisters. But when the opportunity finally comes, she throws away her chance at glory and breaks law • risking exile • to save a mere mortal. Even worse, Alia Keralis is no ordinary girl and with this single brave act, Diana may have doomed the world.

• Alia just wanted to escape her overprotective brother with a semester at sea. She doesn't know she is being hunted. When a bomb detonates aboard her ship, Alia is rescued by a mysterious girl of extraordinary strength and forced to confront a horrible truth: Alia is a Warbringer • a direct descendant of the infamous Helen of Troy, fated to bring about an age of bloodshed and misery.

• Together, Diana and Alia will face an army of enemies • mortal and divine • determined to either destroy or possess the Warbringer. If they have any hope of saving both their worlds, they will have to stand side by side against the tide of war.

Act fast! The first printing includes a poster of Diana! Each first printing in the DC Icons series will have a limited-edition poster • collect them all to create the full image!

"Warbringer is straight-up dazzling, every sentence waking up your senses with a 'Yeah, that's right, this is BRAND-NEW, SUCKAS!' punch."

• LIBBA BRAY, New York Times bestselling author of *The Diviners*

"Will absolutely satisfy pre-existing fans of Wonder Woman, but it also readily stands alone for non-superhero fans."

• Kirkus Reviews, **STARRED REVIEW**

"Wonder Woman is the epitome of a kick-butt heroine, and Bardugo does her justice with aplomb."

• The Bulletin

"Bardugo breathes zippy new life into the story with a twisty plot, whip-smart characters, and her trademark masterful writing."

• Booklist

Book Information

Series: DC Icons Series (Book 1)

Hardcover: 384 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (August 29, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399549730

ISBN-13: 978-0399549731

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.4 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #658 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Superheroes #4 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Comics & Graphic Novels > Superheroes #5 in Books > Teens > Mysteries & Thrillers > Thrillers & Suspense

Customer Reviews

"Cinematic battles and a race against time keep the excitement high, but the focus on girls looking out for each other is what makes this tie-in shine." — Kirkus Reviews, starred review (for *Wonder Woman: Warbringer*) "Bardugo's set up is shiver-inducing, of the delicious variety. This is what fantasy is for." — New York Times Book Review (for *Shadow and Bone*) "The darker it gets for the good guys, the better." — Entertainment Weekly (for *Shadow and Bone*) "Cracking page-turner with a multiethnic, band of misfits." — Kirkus Reviews, starred review (for *Six of Crows*) "A delicious blend of masterfully executed elements . . . Bardugo outdoes herself." — Booklist (for *Crooked Kingdom*)

LEIGH BARDUGO is the #1 New York Times bestselling and USA Today bestselling author of *Six of Crows*, *Crooked Kingdom*, and the *Shadow and Bone* Trilogy. She is the first author in the DC Icons Series, where the DC Comics super hero icons are written by megastar young adult authors. Forthcoming books include *Batman* by Marie Lu, *Catwoman* by Sarah J. Maas, and *Superman* by Matt de la Peña.

I'll admit when it comes to comic book icons, I don't know much about them other than what I learn from the movies! And then with all the movies we've had over the years, I find there are conflicting storylines too! But since I LOVE Leigh Bardugo's books, I knew I had to give *Wonder Woman: Warbringer* a try! And even though I don't know my *Wonder Woman* lore--yes I still need to see the movie, waiting for it to hit Red Box! Lol!--I found I was able to follow along fairly easily. And perhaps it might have helped that I didn't know much because I was able to take Leigh's Diana as the Diana. Though I do suspect she did keep the main parts of Diana's legacy the same! So begins Diana's story as she's one of the only teenagers on Themyscira, for she was actually born on the island whereas others came to it after they've proven their status as an Amazon. Diana is partaking in a race with all the other Amazons and is determined to win. She's determined to prove to her mother, the other Amazons, and herself that she belongs with them and that she is a true Amazon as well. She's in the lead of the race when

she suddenly hears a loud noise and uncovers a boat wreck out in the ocean near her home. Then she sees there's someone in the water and with barely a second thought, Diana is swimming out to save her. Themyscira is a secret place that no mortal knows about and shouldn't be able to find, but when Ali is brought unconscious to its shores, things quickly fall into chaos. And it's not because a mortal is on their territory, it's because Alia is the Warbringer. Her very presence has been known to incite war among people. As it is, Diana's people start to fall ill and skirmishes start to occur. Diana learns from the Oracle that she must get Alia to a spring near Helen of Troy's temple in order to cleanse her of her Warbringer curse and only then would there be peace for the line of Warbringers would be put to an end. This story was far more interesting and entertaining than I could've hoped for! True, I had a rough start in the beginning, but part of that could've just been from my busy day when I tried starting it. But on my second day of reading I was hooked! Diana is such an intriguing character! I loved seeing her early Wonder Woman-isms happen. Donning golden cuffs, bringing a "magic" lasso with her before she leaves, the little things like that were what made me smile throughout! Diana and Alia are joined on their journey by Alia's brother, Jason, and her best friend, Nim, and her brother's best friend Theo. They make for an interesting group, as Jason is the overprotective older brother, Nim is the enthusiastic and charismatic BFF, where Theo is the lovable goofball, yet he has his tech savvy edge to him as well. Then there's Diana who's never once been to our world and everything is a new adventure for her. These characters were truly enjoyable! I loved getting to know them! Nim and Theo, who constantly bicker always had me chuckling! Then there's this possible chemistry happening between Jason and Diana. We only catch glimpses of it, but it makes you wonder...will Diana have a reason to not go home?! The ending was shock! I hadn't expected the twist but I loved it! It was totally fitting with the story! And while things do wrap up, you're left with the sense that Diana's journey is far from over! And since this is basically Wonder Woman as a teenager, you know where her story will lead! Leigh Bardugo is Wonder Woman in her own right! We already know she rocks the fantasy world with her previous series, but now she sets the bar high with the DC Icons series! She totally made Diana her own, yet still keeping her as the Wonder Woman we will come to know! She nailed it! Overall Rating 4.85/5 stars--the awkward rating from my little hiccup of a start, but as I said, when I picked it up again the next day I was all in!!

In her previous novels Leigh Bardugo created some phenomenal and unforgettable worlds set in their own time, their own universes with extraordinary and beautiful creations for characters. Wonder Woman: Warbringer, her latest, takes place in our world and present day time and as the kickass superhero has been around since 1942, the back story and world are already known but

Bardugo has taken some creative liberties in fleshing out Themyscira a little and adds her own touch. When the teenage Diana (she is never called Wonder Woman) rescues a young girl from a floundering boat she breaks one of the cardinal rules of Themyscira: no humans allowed on the island or face permanent exile. But there is something about the girl, Alia, that prevents Diana from letting her die before she is discovered. Then, events on the island lead Diana to consult the Oracle and what it tells her about Alia forces Diana to leave Themyscira and face the human world. But, the girls don't end up where they had originally planned; they end up in New York, Alia's hometown. This is where the book gets really interesting, and fun. Just because the s are an isolated people does not mean they do not know about the world beyond their island. They study it in school and even though there is no Internet or cars or planes on Themyscira, Diana at least knows what they are. Her knowledge, though, is book-based and in New York she gets to feel, smell, taste and experience the modern world. She rides an elevator, swims in the Hudson, buys junk food, parachutes, sleeps in a roach motel and meets Alia's amusing friends and her uptight brother, Jason. Warbringer is well written and full of twists and excitement and never takes itself seriously. As she is a die-hard and lifelong WW fan, it definitely comes out and it is apparent that Bardugo had fun writing this. There are some pretty fanciful scenes that stretch the reader's ability to suspend disbelief, but, you know, the novel is inspired by a comic book character and written by a woman who created the Grishaverse, it's going to be fantastical. This is the sixth Leigh Bardugo's YA fantasy novel that I have read and I feel this book is more young young adult than either The Grisha Trilogy or Crooked Kingdom series. Crooked Kingdom was gritty and dark with characters with dubious intentions and some of Bardugo's best dialogue. The Grisha Trilogy was loaded with fantasy and magic and sexy evil creatures. Warbringer is just plain fun. The characters are young and they read young. I read the entire Crooked Kingdom series imagining Kaz was in his twenties. Diana and Alia and her friends are teenagers and they act like it. It's a great book and perfect for any Wonder Woman fan over the age of ten (no swearing, no sex, some bisexual innuendo but definitely tamer than what you find on the TV). I loved it. Enjoy!!

I'm a huge Wonder Woman fan (comics, books, tv, movies, you name it), so I really wanted to like this book. I saw that it was a story set before Diana becomes Wonder Woman. And while the story of a girl coming to the island and Diana leaving and seeing the world of man, completely disregards all Wonder Woman origin stories I still tried to put that aside to enjoy this story. However, it's just a slow-paced, dull plot that only really picks up at the end climactic scene. The characters weren't really likable. And

while Diana stays true to character for the most part, she attends a silly party instead of hurrying to get Alia (and the world) to safety. That's right. The world is in mortal jeopardy, and they attend a gala and even worry about gowns. It's ridiculous. And disappointing. There are some fun fight scenes where Diana kicks butt. And I enjoyed her subplot coming-of-age story back home, but it wasn't enough to save the book for me.

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