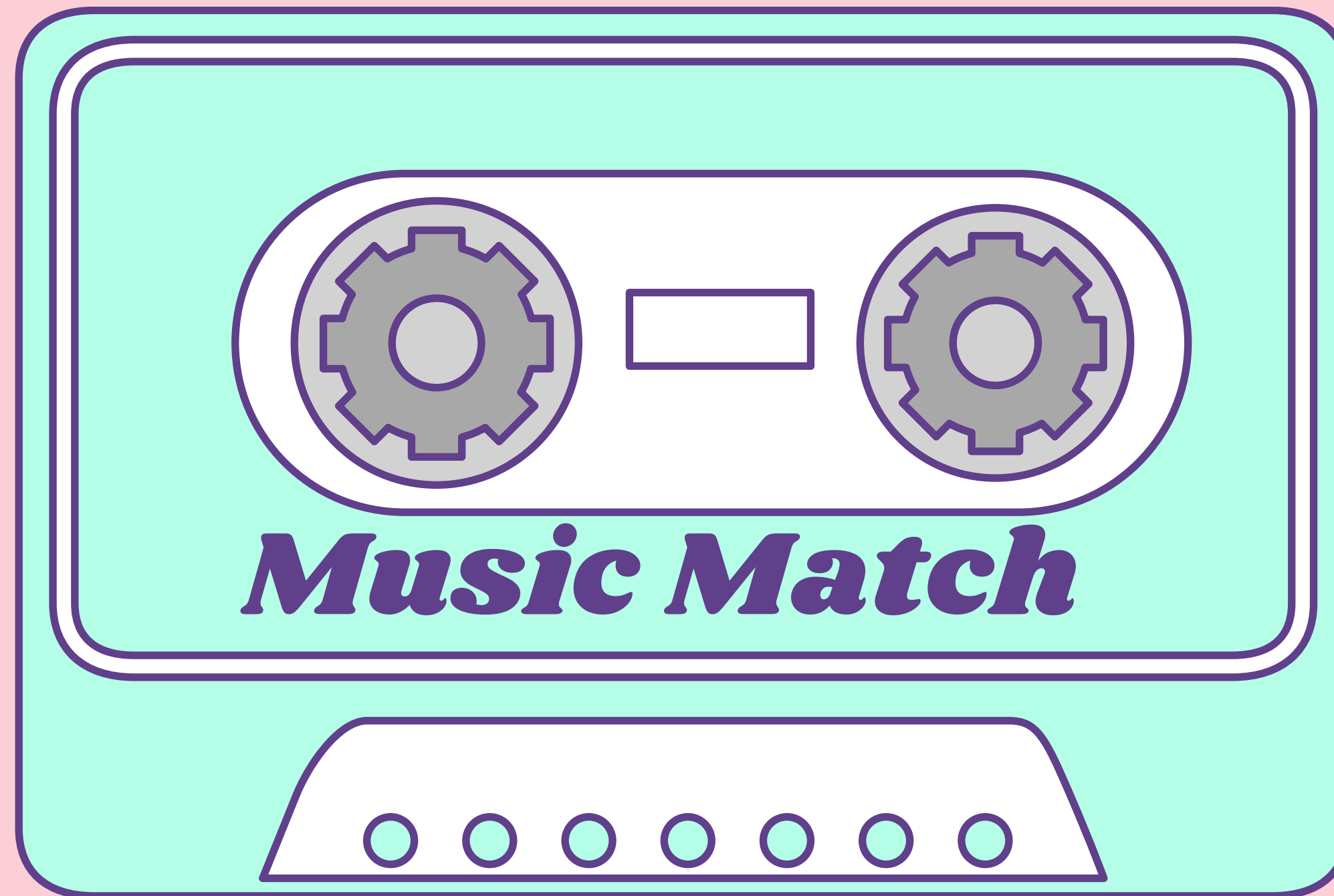




GOT A #MUSICMOOD?
We've got a book (and a song) for you.



YA EDITION

Your djs



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Match-up sneak peek: your title catalog



Match-up sneak peek: your playlist

- country*** "Follow Your Arrow" - Kacey Musgraves
- Broadway*** "Helpless" - Ashanti and Ja Rule
- dream pop*** "Light" - Sleeping at Last
- pop rock*** "Total Eclipse of the Heart" - Bonnie Tyler
- alt rock*** "Machine" - Imagine Dragons
- kpop*** "La Rosa" - U-Know and Shin Yeeun
- jazz*** "Agape" - Nicholas Britell
- alt indie*** "Après Moi" - Regina Spektor
- classical*** "Fantasie Nègre No.1 in E minor"
- Florence B. Price
- R&B*** "Halo" - Beyoncé

genre:
country



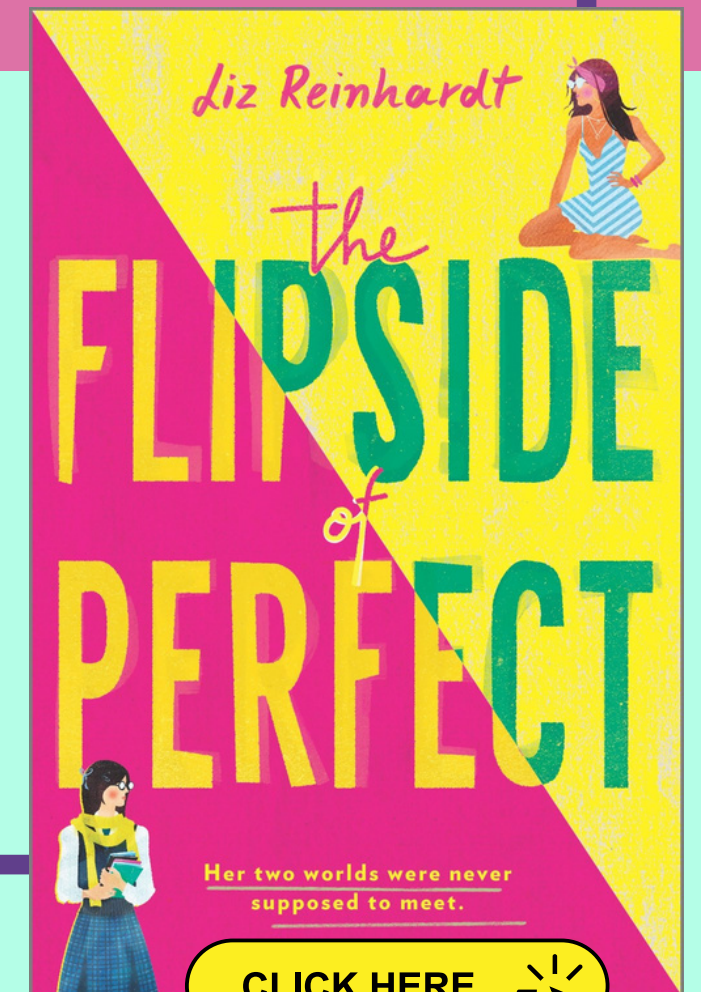
***"Follow Your Arrow" by
Kasey Musgraves***

This gently humorous song about finding your way in the world without letting external pressures define you is just what the doctor ordered for this nuanced coming-of-age book (and life in general).



The Flipside of Perfect by Liz Reinhardt

AJ is an A-type oldest sibling in MI. Della is the free-spirited youngest of three who spends summers in FL with her dad. The catch? AJ and Della are the same girl. This is a coming-of-age story about the daughter of divorced parents who has felt obligated nearly all of her life to maintain two very different lives and has lost a sense of who she really is in the process. But in one transformational summer, her worlds are about to collide--and she's going to find out who she's been all along.



genre: *Broadway*



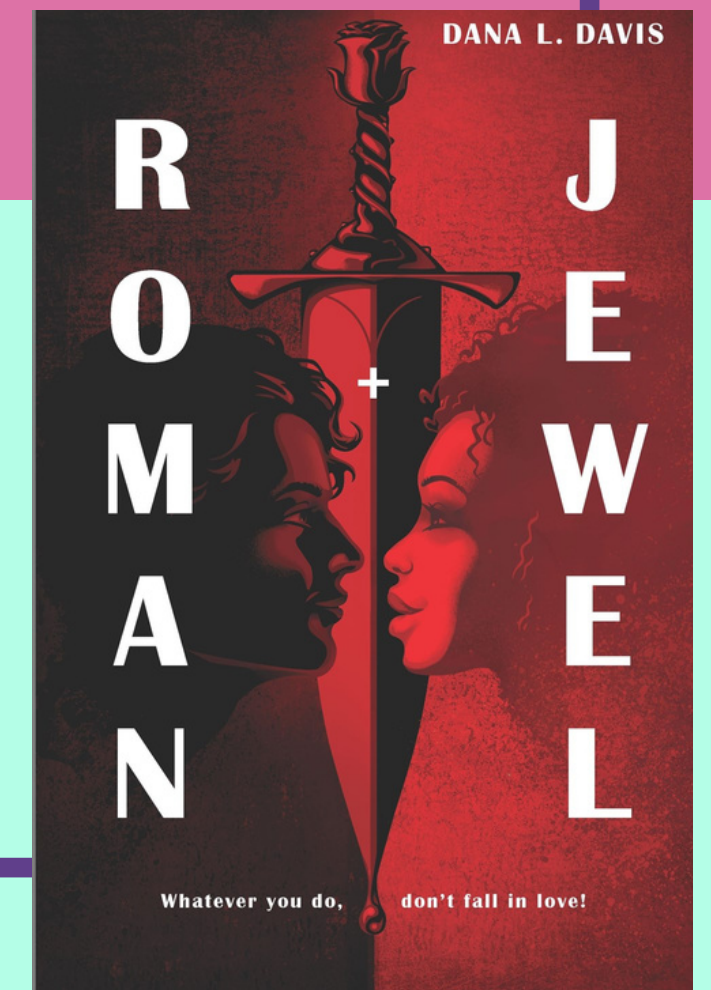
"Helpless" (Hamilton), by Ashanti and Ja Rule



Justtttt keeping you all on your toes by throwing in the Hamilton Mixtape version, especially because Lin Manuel Miranda famously channeled these two artists when he penned the song. A behind-the-story anecdote is everything.

ROMAN AND JEWEL by Dana L. Davis

Dana L. Davis is herself is both a Hollywood and voiceover actor, and did a ton of research to give readers a delightful, amazing behind-the-curtains look at Broadway in her latest delight that asks: If Romeo and Juliet got the Hamilton treatment...who would play the leads? This love letter to song and stage still gets me nostalgic as Broadway struggles to reopen, post-pandemic.



genre:
dream pop



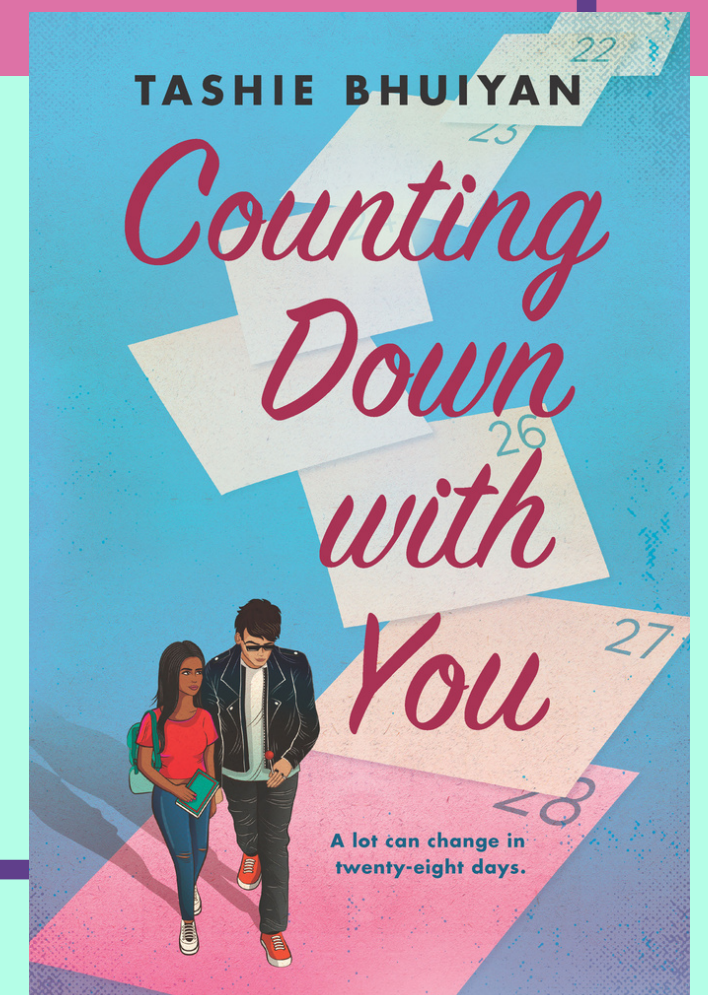
"Light" by Sleeping at Last

I would be remiss if I didn't include this song for Counting Down with You. Not only is Sleeping at Last one of my favorite artists but this song is one that makes an appearance in Ace Clyde's own playlist to Karina. *SWOON*



COUNTING DOWN WITH YOU by Tashie Bhuiyan

Fake-dating. Book hauls as bribery. An adorable and supportive grandmother. The best girl gang a person could have. Gen-Z references to the max. Those are only the tip of the iceberg of why Counting Down with You is a must read.



genre:
pop rock



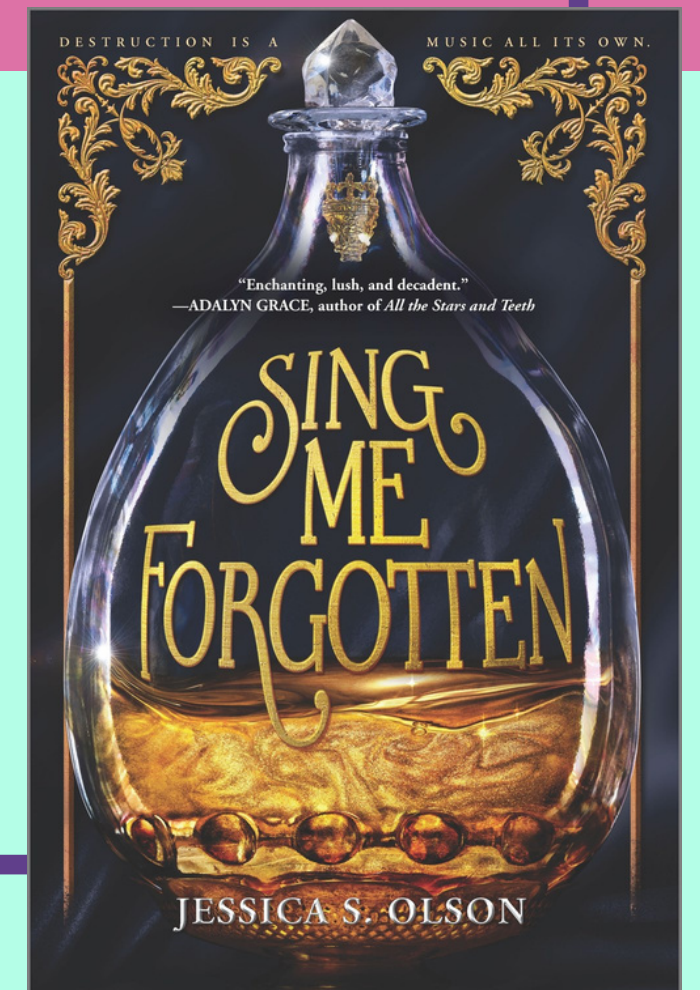
"Total Eclipse of the Heart"
by Bonnie Tylor



Does any song more perfectly describe tragic romance than this? When I listen, I hear Isda singing to Emeric--tragic, urgent, bursting with pain and emotion. I'm not weeping, you're weeping.

***SING ME FORGOTTEN* by Jessica S. Olson**

A gender-bent Phantom of the Opera young-adult retelling. But in this version of the story, the Phantom is a teenage girl. Sing Me Forgotten is an exploration of gender and beauty that questions why we so often see unlikeable male protagonists whose stories are valued, while unlikable female characters are criticized. Jessica S. Olson writes, "we don't have to be pretty in order to have value or nice in order to have stories worth telling."



genre:
alt. rock



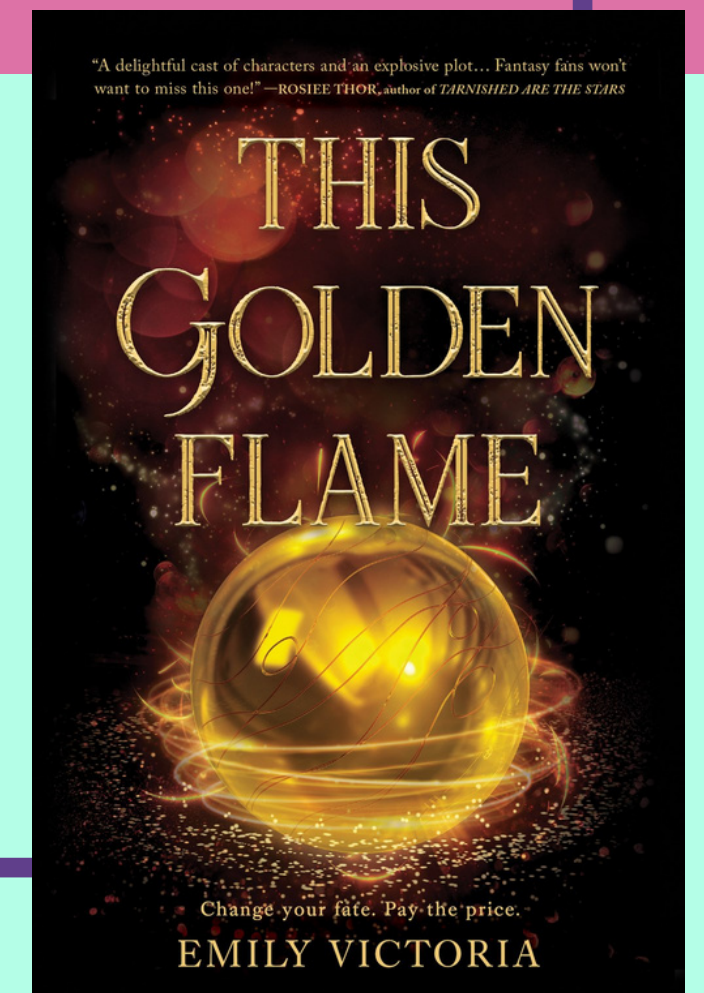
***"Machine" by Imagine
Dragons***



I felt this song was an ode to Alix, who is my favorite cinnamon roll automaton and is so much more than just a "machine."

THIS GOLDEN FLAME by Emily Victoria

If you want a fantasy that delivers a feel-good feeling, this is the book for you. Pirates + Runes + Ace rep + cinnamon roll characters all combine and make up this delicious debut.



genre:
kpop



***"La Rosa" by U-Know and
Shin Yeeun***

A darkly dramatic book deserves a darkly dramatic kpop song about two exes who try to hate each other, but can't. (Fun fact: I was introduced to this song by author and kpop superfan Maritza Moulite.)



FIVE WAYS TO FALL OUT OF LOVE by Emily Martin

If you want perfectly likable characters in a romantic comedy of errors, this isn't the book for you. But if you want realistically flawed teens who make frustrating choices and have to learn how to find their way back to redemption, then you'll love this book--as I did. Aubrey Cash believes that, scientifically, love is an unrealistic construct. And then she finds herself conflicted about Webster, the boy with whom she'd developed a perfectly content hate-hate relationship all through high school. And all her scientific theories about love are put to the test.



genre:
jazz



"Agape" by Nicholas Britell

I love this song. Just like One of the Good Ones it carries so much emotion. It has an undertone of sadness but also an overtone of hope, with an edge of mystery and I feel like that is what One of the Good Ones also offers.



ONE OF THE GOOD ONES by Maika & Maritza Moulite

There is so much packed in these 352 pages that Maika and Maritza wrote so beautifully and thoughtfully. Teen activist Kezi Smith is killed during a Black Lives Matter protest, and in an ode to her life her sisters Happi and Genny and friends embark on a journey using the Negro-Motorist Green Book as their guide. As the trip unfolds the sisters learn not only more about who Kezi is but the history of her families involvement with the Green Book.



genre:
alt. indie



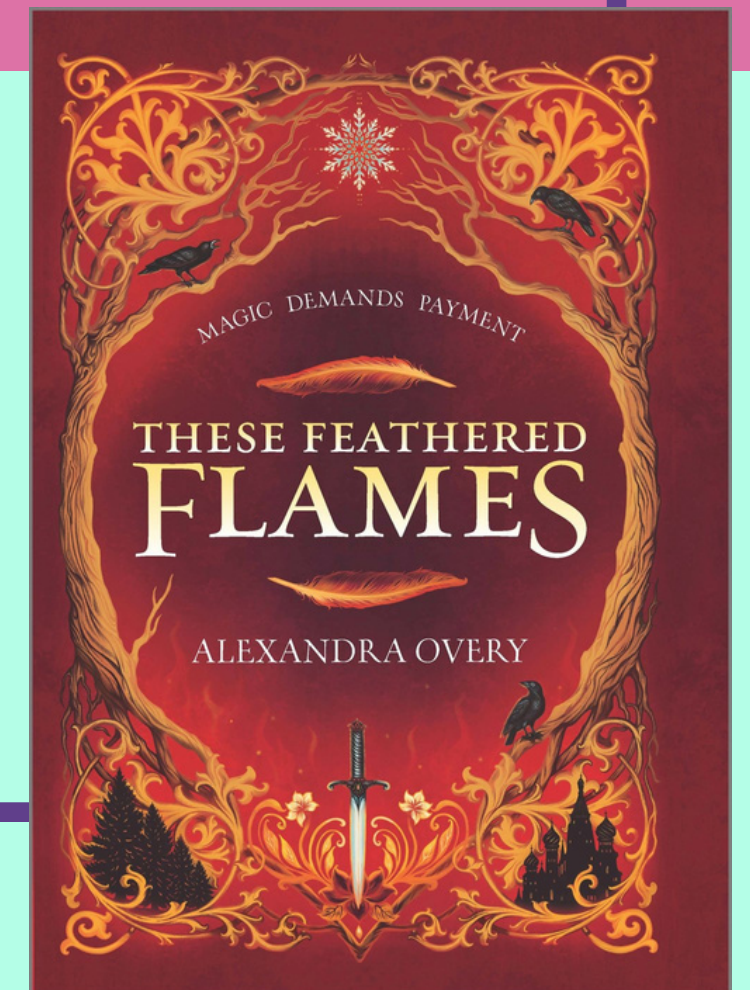
"Après Moi" by Regina Spektor

I imagine this one as a duet, Izaveta and Asya each singing one line back to each other, clashing personalities prominently on display in a lyrical push-and-pull: "After me, comes the flood." But then: No, "after *me*, comes the flood." Regina Spektor's seamless integration of Russian lyrics put me in the mind of the magical Tourin, inspired by the Russian folktale "The Firebird."

THESE FEATHERED FLAMES by Alexandra Overy

Tóurensi tradition dictates that one royal twin will become queen, responsible for the country, while the other will become the Firebird, responsible for maintaining the country's magical balance.

Rich worldbuilding, sword fights, majesty and magic, romance, drama... This queer #ownvoices retelling of "The Firebird," a Russian folktale, is Three Dark Crowns meets Wicked Saints. You'll devour this in one sitting.



genre:
classical



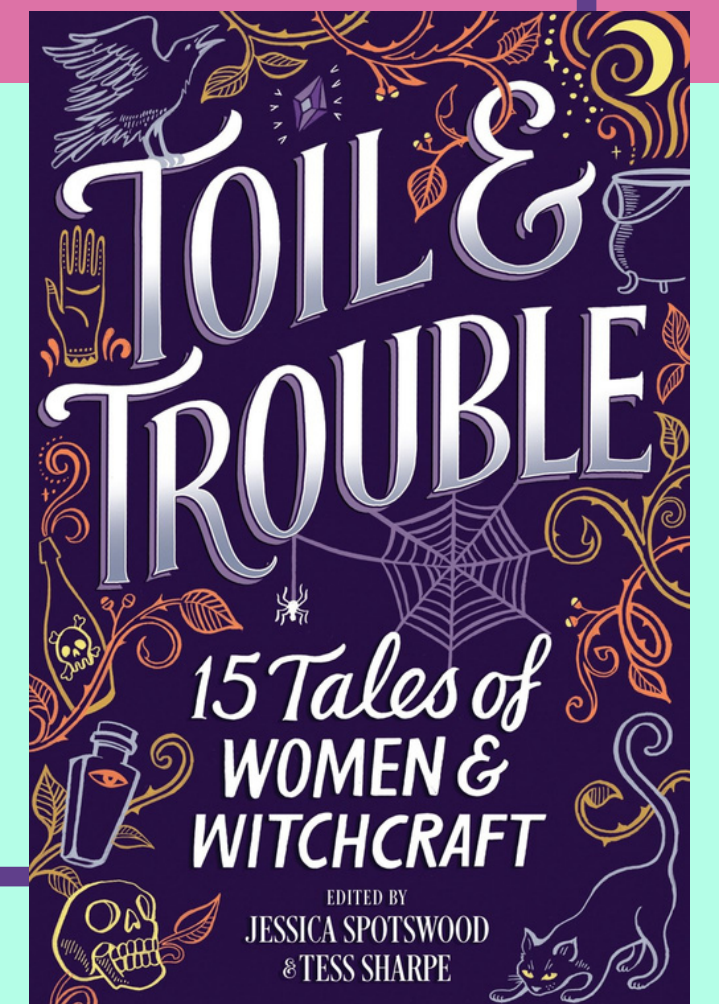
"Fantasie Nègre No.1 in E minor" by Florence B. Price



In the spirit of women breaking all the molds (see below), I will 100% have to go with Florence Beatrice Price. She was the first African-American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra. The woman was a boss, and this composition is as soaring and nuanced as the stories in this spotlight anthology.

TOIL & TROUBLE ed. by Tess Sharpe, Jessica Spotswood

History tells us that women accused of witchcraft were often outsiders: educated, independent, unmarried... maybe even bold, powerful, and rebellious. I.e., unwilling to fall in line with traditional expectations. This anthology of diverse tales of fiction from author favorites delves into the mythology of witchcraft across cultures and feminist points-of-view, for surprisingly relevant discussions and great reads for reluctant readers. **Now in paperback.**



genre:
R&B



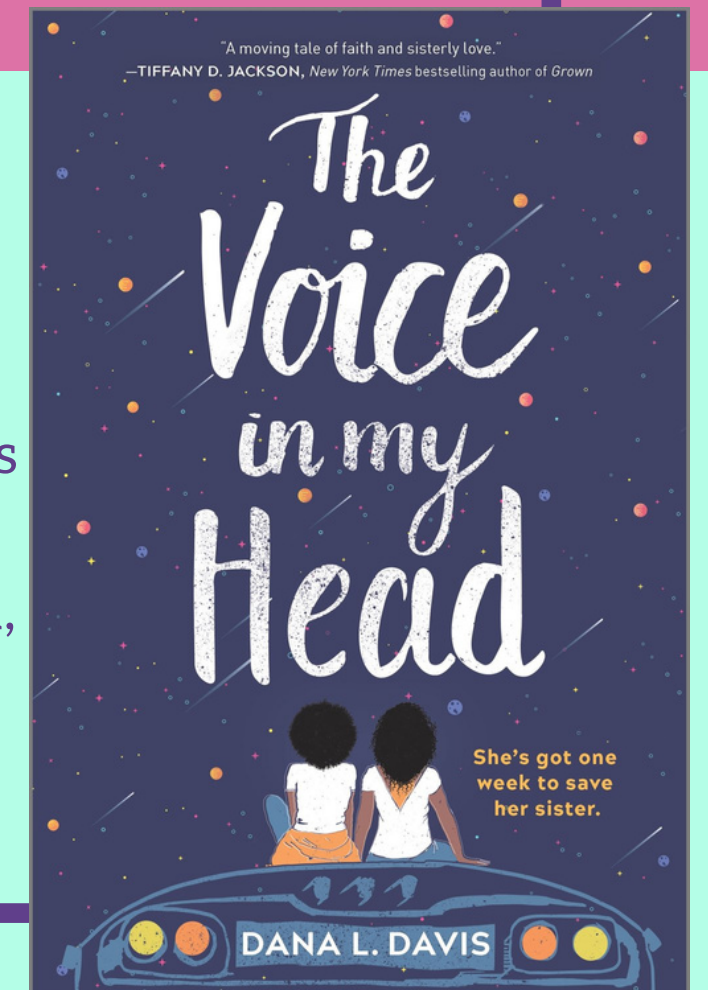
"Halo" by Beyoncé

I nearly picked Bey's heartbreaking 'Heaven,' but the spirit of 'Halo' perfectly captures the spirit of this (somehow, incredibly) uplifting novel about twin sisters Indigo and Violet. Hope, even joy, creeps in. Indigo's got her angel now.



THE VOICE IN MY HEAD by Dana L. Davis

When Indigo's twin, Violet, becomes terminally ill, Indigo spirals into desperation in her efforts to cope. Okay, so right about now you're like – great. This is a tearjerker. I'm not sure I can handle this. But wait. Because here comes the part where Indigo begins to hear a voice in her head claiming to be God (who sounds a LOT like Dave Chappelle!?) insisting that if she takes Violet on a road trip to a remote rock formation in the Arizona desert, her sister will live. So...they go, with their entire dysfunctional family in tow. And...well, I lied, you're probably going to need the tissues after all. But I promise, it will be worth it if you stick it out for the full, sometimes heartbreaking, often hopeful, and always divine ride. **Now in paperback.**



HAPPY READING AND LISTENING

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