

Six of Crows

by Leigh Bardugo

Six of Crows is an urban fantasy book that, while laying out a gripping, detailed plot with good characters, succeeds in representing many different kinds of characters and cultures. The novel follows the story of six outcasts as they go on a mission to acquire a secret that, if unleashed, could be the end of the world.

First of all, I really have to commend the author for such varied characters and an amazing group dynamic. Kaz, one of the viewpoint characters, is the definition of an antihero; he does what can be termed in the novel as good, but for bad reasons. Inej is the opposite; she cares about doing the right thing, but is still part of Kaz's gang. Bardugo does an excellent job of writing witty dialogue between characters. Many times in the book, someone says something that made me laugh out loud.

In addition to great characters, there is good romance. The few romance subplots of the book were engaging and didn't take away from the story at all.

The actual story of the book was fast-paced, and had me on the edge of my seat the entire time. Along with a few well-placed plot twists and failed plans none of the book felt like it was there just to be there. Every part of the plot made sense.

Other than this, the amount of diversity this book has for a fantasy novel is wonderful. At least two characters have disabilities, more than half of the main cast isn't white, and there are LGBT characters. In addition to just being there, these character traits are a) portrayed in a way that makes sense and b) add to the story without making it seem forced.

Anyone who enjoys just a good young adult fantasy would enjoy this novel, but especially if you want to get sucked into the story, feel what the characters are feeling, laugh, cry, anything, I recommend this amazing book to you. 10/10